

# the chronicle

## Get Grease-y

Drive-in film event to show classic musical of the 70s

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## Coal calling

Reunion aims to celebrate 100th colliery anniversary

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## Hawks flying

Halas side comeback to win the cup final

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## Parking fees rise for staff at hospital

PARKING charges for staff at Russells Hall Hospital in Dudley will rise by up to 30 per cent. But bosses say staff could end up shelling out less than they already do if they sign up to a new payment scheme.

Monthly passes at Russells Hall Hospital in Dudley will increase to a maximum of £19.50 on July 1, up from £15. Workers are being offered to take part in a "salary sacrifice scheme" where the charges are taken automatically from their wages.

Hospital chiefs say they will pay a maximum of £12.27 if they sign up - as cash will be saved against tax and national insurance. But they admit the prices have been increased to bring in more money.

More than 1,000 parking tickets were handed out to patients, staff and visitors at Russells Hall in less than a year. It followed a clamp-down by car park attendants after complaints about motorists blocking the path of ambulances.

Chief executive of the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust Paula Clark said: "The scheme will see an increase in the staff car park tariff to a maximum of £19.50 per month, but a reduction in the actual amount paid by staff via savings against tax and national insurance."

## Delays alert over repairs

REPAIR work will start next week on a motorway bridge near Halesowen which was the scene of a fatal lorry crash.

The engineering works will be carried out on Carters Lane bridge close to junction three of the M5 to repair damage to the bridge caused in the crash.

Motorists were warned to expect delays as the works programme begins.

The roadworks will start on Monday between 8pm and 6am for a fortnight.

# SPEEDWAY COULD RETURN TO TOWN

by Andrew Turton

**SPEEDWAY could be coming home to Dudley as plans for a new sports stadium bringing thousands of fans to the borough have been revealed. Dudley Heathens confirmed discussions had been taking place with Gornal Athletic Football Club on a ground sharing plan for the stadium.**

Unused land at the foot of Castle Hill in the shadow of the town's historic zoo and near Black Country Living Museum is among the sites being considered. The former Cradley Heathens side were forced to stop racing in the area in 1995 when its home, the Dudley Wood Stadium, was earmarked for a housing development.

## Former PcsO is cleared of sex charges

A FORMER PcsO has been cleared of sexual assault - and says she now wants to get back to an ordinary life.

Sylvia Cooper was accused of inappropriately touching colleagues while on duty. The 45-year-old, of Stourbridge, sobbed with relief in the dock at Warwick Crown Court after being cleared of all eight charges of sexual assault.

She had told the jury she had been "shocked and horrified" when in December 2010 she learned of the allegations made against her by five colleagues - two female PcsOs, two police constables and a male PcsO.

On the second day of her trial last week, Cooper was cleared of one charge alleging she touched a female colleague in an inappropriate manner, after the woman said she could not remember if contact was made.

After deliberating for seven hours and 41 minutes over two days, the jury found her not guilty of the remaining eight charges.

Cooper, of Sherbourne Road, put her hands together as she mouthed "thank you" to the jury through the glass screen of the dock, then slumped with her head in her hands and began sobbing with relief.

In a statement after the trial, Cooper said: "The last two years have been a nightmare."

The club reformed three years ago as Dudley Heathens and has since raced at Wolverhampton's Monmore Green Stadium in the National League.

Heathens club chairman and speedway broadcaster Nigel Pearson said it would be the "ultimate dream" to return to the borough and vowed to pursue the process with council officials.

"The support that we have had since we returned three years ago has been the motivation to drive us forward with the stadium plans," he said.

"It is an exciting opportunity for us. It is a massive jigsaw at the moment."

Architect drawings are being developed as part of an application which has been devised behind-the-scenes over the past few months.

### Parties

Another meeting between the parties is due to be held next week but Mr Pearson reiterated proposals had not yet been finalised.

The plans would be financed by the sale of Gornal Athletic's Garden Walk Stadium for redevelopment.

Gornal Athletic, who play in the West Midlands (Regional) League Premier Division, would own the new stadium, under current proposals, with Dudley Heathens as tenants.

But the Heathens would be able to boost the coffers through gate receipts with the club regularly backed by more than 1,000 fans at every race meeting and the possibility of live TV coverage.

Extra income could be generated through conferencing and hospitality facilities in a bid to create a regular revenue stream. Mr Pearson says they would try to emulate the model of Walsall football club's Banks Stadium which hosts a range of off-the-pitch events.

## Kings may rock Parliament



Margot James with band members Luke Wassell, Kieran Lock, Joshua Lomas and Dean Greatbatch who have been put forward to play at the House of Commons

A BAND could soon be travelling to the Houses of Parliament for a unique gig thanks to a Black Country MP.

Of Kings and Captains has been nominated to play at the Rock the House event at the seat of power in London.

Stourbridge MP Margot James put the band's name forward for the honour on May 30 which is now in its second year.

It is made up of Luke Wassell - lead vocals and guitar, drummer Kieran Lock, bass gui-

tarist Dean Greatbatch and Joshua Lomas on guitar and vocals. All are aged 23 and from Dudley, Stourbridge and Blackheath. Band manager Marc Newey said the rock/pop group were excited by the chance to play at the event. "It is a really good opportunity for them and it was great when we heard that Margot had nominated the band," he said. PM David Cameron and Culture Secretary Jeremy Hunt are among MPs who have nominated bands for the event.

## Borough to boost places at schools

MORE than 160 extra school places will be created across Dudley and Wolverhampton next year to cope with rising birth rates.

The majority of additional spaces are being offered in Wolverhampton, with schools adding a total of 95 places in September 2013.

Dudley Council has set aside 65 extra places to cope with growing demand. It comes after education bosses at Staffordshire County Council said they were offering at least 25 extra spaces next year, with the number set to rise.

Education bosses at Sandwell Council are also in talks to create extra places next September. Walsall has no plans.

Extra places have been created due to an increase in births and a growing population through immigration.

Across Dudley, seven unnamed primary schools have been identified to help with the growing demand.

Dave Perrett, assistant director of education, play and learning, said: "Across Dudley 65 additional places, at seven primary schools, have been provided to help with the growing demand across the borough."

In Wolverhampton, Villiers Primary, Eastfield Primary, Bilston Primary, St Andrew's Primary, Northwood Park Primary and Wilkinson Primary, will all be taking on extra pupils.

## Rethink on town plans

THE multi-million-pound revamp of Dudley town could go back to the drawing board to include more homes.

A probe has been ordered by Councillor David Sparks into the work being carried out.

A £46 million project to revamp the town centre finally started this year after years in the pipeline.

But Councillor Sparks said he wants a review of the plans

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## CONTACT US

Have you got a story or an event you want covered? The Chronicle and the Express & Star have a team of reporters covering Dudley who can help:

**Heather Large:** 01384 353203  
heather.large@expressandstar.co.uk

**Adam Burling:** 01384 353209  
adam.burling@expressandstar.co.uk

**Louise Jew:** 01384 353201  
louise.jew@expressandstar.co.uk

**Andrew Turton:** 01384 353202  
andrew.turton@expressandstar.co.uk

**Lee Watton:** 01384 353230  
l.watton@expressandstar.co.uk

**Sports:** E-mail: chronsport@expressandstar.co.uk

**Photographic John Sambrooks**  
Tel: 01902 319431

## Advertising:

**Nikki Cope**  
Tel: 01902 319573 E-mail: n.cope@expressandstar.co.uk

**Emma Parkes**  
Tel: 01384 353234 E-mail: e.parkes@expressandstar.co.uk

**Distribution: Paul Jones**  
Tel: 01902 319990 E-mail: p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

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## Hippodrome support passes 2,000

CAMPAIGNERS fighting to save Dudley Hippodrome from the bulldozers have experienced a boost in numbers from people willing to join the battle.

More than 2,000 people have now signed a petition urging councillors to review proposals for the landmark.

The building, which stands in Castle Hill, neighbouring Dudley Zoo and opposite The Station Hotel,

could be torn down as part of the £10 million masterplan transforming the gateway to the Black Country town and bring in more tourists.

Dudley Council is behind the plan to increase visitors to the zoo, Black Country Living Museum and Dudley Canal Tunnels.

But campaigners say the Hippodrome - which was operated as a bingo hall up until three years ago - deserves to be made part of the

plans. Campaign leader Geoff Fitzpatrick led a second public meeting of the action group this week in a bid to devise ideas to take the plan forward. These include producing a fully-costed business plan to show how the building could be successfully run as an entertainment venue and raising funds for the campaign.

Mr Fitzpatrick says he was delighted that more and more people had signed the petition and

hoped this would give more weight to their argument with Dudley's new Labour-controlled council.

"It is great that we have reached 2,000 signatures and we are still going strong because we want to ensure we don't lose momentum," said the former college lecturer.

"There is a strength of feeling with the people we have spoken to that there should be something done."

## All systems are go with £18m training centre

WITH the outside of Dudley College's new £18million vocational training centre protected from the elements, workers are busy behind the scenes.

The inside of the impressive Dudley Evolve building in Tower Street is a hive of activity with classrooms starting to take shape and electrical fittings being installed.

The development, which has been covered in a water-proof wrapping, is being constructed on the site of the former fire station.

As a homage to its past, the old frontage has been incorporated into the modern design.

The old fire engine doors have been replaced with windows made to look like doors and will be painted red.

Work is continuing in the fitness suite and sports hall where a huge skylight will be fitted.

**Basketball**  
It is being built to Sport England county standard and will offer badminton, netball and basketball courts as well as indoor football pitches.

Students, staff and visitors will enter the building on level two and will make their way into the atrium, which spans four storeys and will house the student learning centre.

It has a glazed wall looking out onto Coronation Gardens.

The college's director of estates and capital projects, Steve Johnson, said: "This will be the heart of the building. Students will come through the front door, turn left and will walk into this light and airy atrium.

Also on the same floor work to fit out the hair and beauty salon, which will be open to the public, is continuing. It will have 21 hair-dressing stations and six beauty treatment rooms.

The building is expected to be handed over to the college on August 31.

## Specialised health dept being given £1m revamp

A SPECIALIST department at Dudley's main hospital is being given a £1million revamp to help improve patient care.

New machines for cleaning equipment are being installed in the gastroenterology unit to ensure doctors have "an almost instant" supply of clean instruments.

The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, which runs the hospital along with The Guest Hospital in Dudley and the Corbett in Stourbridge, has invested £1,083,754 in the upgrade.

The new machines replace a six-year-old unit currently used for cleaning.

Chief executive Paula Clark said: "The new machines use advanced technology to clean and disinfect endoscopes used to investigate the small and large intestines, take biopsies and treat some digestive disorders.

"Advanced technology speeds up the cleaning process, providing doctors with an almost instant supply of decontaminated instruments.

"The new facility ensures the Trust remains fully accredited in terms of quality."



College director of estates, Steve Johnson, looks at the gardens



## Road ban mother is caught driving

A HEAVILY pregnant mother was caught driving while disqualified twice in just four weeks.

Ruth Trevis, aged 29, of Grosvenor Way, Brierley Hill was already banned from the roads after a drink drive incident in which she hit four cars.

Judge Helen Hughes, sitting at Wolverhampton Crown Court last week, ruled she was able to spare Trevis time behind bars because she did not want her to have her second child in prison.

But she added: "You simply cannot go on offending and next time you will not be so lucky."

Trevis admitted two charges of driving while disqualified and without insurance on March 7 and April 1 and she was placed on supervision for two years.

Miss Samantha Powis defending said Trevis works for Npower was having a particularly difficult pregnancy and she had taken the car because it was much more comfortable than walking. "She took a risk."

The judge also imposed a curfew between 8pm and 6am until the end of July.

## Robbers in street attack

A MAN and wife were both attacked during a robbery at a bus stop in Dudley.

The victims, a 47-year-old man and his 48-year-old wife, were attacked by three men in Stourbridge Road, near to Queen's Cross.

One of the robbers tried to remove the man's silver bangle from his wrist, but when the victim resisted he was punched.

The female victim threw herself between the two men, but the three attackers continued throwing punches.

It happened at about 9.50pm on April 17.

## Animal funding

VOLUNTEERS have collected hundreds of pounds from customers at a Dudley supermarket for the RSPCA.

Fundraisers held the event at Tesco at Burnt Tree, collecting £488.80.

In total £10,000 was collected during a week-long fundraising drive for the RSPCA.

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## Moggies die from poisoning

AT LEAST 11 cats have died in agony after a spate of mystery poisonings.

Six of the cats lived within 20 yards of each other in Kidderminster and died within a two day period. Distraught families have reported the deaths to the police and the RSPCA. Officers are now appealing for information.

Four cats belonging to one family in Pat Davis Court have died, as well as one just across the road and a sixth round the corner in York Street – all poisoned within two days of each other.

A cat owner in Stretton Road also reported their cat had been poisoned, as well as four others that had died on April 23 in similar circumstances in that area.

Michelle Davis, aged 32, a mother-of-five of Pat Davis Court, said: "My 12-year-old son Levi's tabby tom Garfield took ill first and was having fits and then Humbug, our black-and-white female started being sick, followed by Tuna, another tabby tom, and his brother, Tizer.

"All had renal failure and the vets said it was a sign they had been poisoned. "We're heartbroken and don't know how this has happened."

## Drug plants near school

POLICE swooped on an address opposite a primary school in Dudley – and seized 24 cannabis plants.

Neighbours had raised their fears drugs were being produced just over the road from the school.

Officers handed leaflets to parents as they were collecting children from Dudley Wood Primary School while the raid took place, explaining what was happening, to allay any fears or alarm.

A man later handed himself into Brierley Hill police station.

He was issued with a caution.

## Olympic games

TODDLERS can join the Olympic celebrations with activities at a Midland park.

The Under Fives event at Brinton Park, Kidderminster is on July 5 from 11am to 3pm will feature Olympic-themed games and stalls.

It follows previous events themed around children's characters Noddy, Bob the Builder, The Tweenies and Fireman Sam at the park.

# When and where to find the celebrations

### DUDLEY

**June 3:** Carol Crescent, Halesowen; Claydon Road, Kingswinford; Dunns Bank, Brierley Hill; Glendale Close, Halesowen; Hillcrest Avenue, Halesowen; Kiniths Way, Halesowen; Manderston Close, Milking Bank; Paragon Street, Stourbridge; Primrose Road, Netherton

**June 4:** Ascot Gardens, Wordsley; Astley Avenue, Halesowen; Broadfield Close, Kingswinford; Charles Road, Halesowen; Clock Tower View, Stourbridge; Heathfield Road, Halesowen; Highland Ridge, Halesowen; Meredith Road, Lower Gornal; Nottingham Way, Brierley Hill; Rectory Street, Wordsley;

Rookery Avenue, Brierley Hill; Shadymoor Drive, Brierley Hill; Wassell Road, Stourbridge; Waxland Road, Halesowen; Willowsbrook Road, Halesowen

**June 9:** The car park at Holy Trinity Church, High Street, Wordsley

### SANDWELL

#### Park events:

**June 3:** Brunswick Park, Wednesbury – Friends of Brunswick Park

**June 4:** Redhouse Park, Great Barr – Friends of Redhouse Park; Dartmouth Park, West Bromwich – Friends of Dartmouth Park; Norman Deeley Playing Fields, Wednesbury – Bilston Road Tenants and Residents Association.

### Street parties:

**June 2:** Great Western Street, Wednesbury  
**June 4:** Fisher Street, Tipton; Upper Chapel Street, Tividale; Cambourne Road, Rowley Regis; Bridle Grove, West Bromwich

**June 5:** Coyne Road, West Bromwich; Warwick Road, Oldbury

**June 4 to 8:** Events on Marsh Lane open space, West Bromwich, organised by Marsh Lane Pentecostal Church

### WYRE FOREST

**June 3:** Coningsby Drive; Fairfield; Roden Avenue, all Kidderminster; Foundry Street, Stourport.

**June 2, 3 and 4:** The Boar's Head, Worces-

ter Street, Kidderminster.

### WOLVERHAMPTON

**June 2:** Slater Street, Bilston; Chester Street, Whitmore Reans; Showell Circus, Bushbury

**June 4:** Coven Street/Wright Street, Bushbury; Station Road, Bilston; Hatton Crescent, Heath Town

**June 5:** Pendrill Road, Bushbury; Inworth, Pendeford; Lawrence Avenue, Heath Town

**June 6:** Cheryl Rise, Heath Town

**June 9:** Tettenhall Wood Community Association.

Date to be confirmed: Romsey Grove, Ford-

# Neighbourhoods gearing up to celebrate Diamond Jubilee

**MORE than 100 street parties are being planned across the region for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.**

Organisers will put up bunting and get out the trestle tables to celebrate the monarch's 60th anniversary on the throne in June. Dudley Council has approved 25 road closures following requests from residents. Among the events is a party at Holy Trinity Church in Amblecote High Street. A thanksgiving service will be held at 3pm on June 3 followed by the party in the church hall.

Residents will be joined by local scout and guide groups, who are encouraged to take along old photos of previous celebrations.

A dozen parties are taking place in Wolverhampton, with organisers of the Tettenhall Wood Community Association party on June 9 taking inspiration from the last time a queen celebrated a Diamond Jubilee.

The Tettenhall Wood Institute in Wood Road will be decked out with bunting between 11am and 4pm on June 9.

In Sandwell, there are seven street parties organised so far, and four events in parks. There will also be a celebration on fields in Marsh Lane, West Bromwich, organised by Marsh Lane Pentecostal Church.

Residents in Walsall are staging 20 parties, with celebrations planned at the Walsall Arms pub in Bank Street and in the town centre. Cannock Chase Dis-

by Adam Burling

trict Council received seven applications for street closures while nine roads in Lichfield will be temporarily shut for the celebrations.

The parties kick-off a week ahead of the bank holiday weekend in Cannock with the residents of Union Street in Bridgtown putting up the bunting and balloons on May 26.

Community stalwart Eddie Smith, who is on the organising committee, is hoping the celebrations will revive the annual Bridgtown Carnival.

The highlight of the street party will be the crowning of the May Queen, a tradition that was revived after 35 years.

Five parties have been confirmed with Wyre Forest District Council, including The Boar's Head pub in Kidderminster town centre, which will stage a three-day festival of entertainment. The authority is processing a further three applications.



Pete Bridgens with his Rhododendron Horizon Monarch on show this weekend

## Tropical twist to garden

A COTTAGE garden with a tropical twist will be delighting visitors in the Black Country when it opens to the public.

Retired transport manager Peter Bridgens will be welcoming people to 13 Lansdowne Road, Hurst Green, Halesowen, on May 20 and June 24.

The garden, which features many rare and unusual plants, has been designed by the 61-year-old and planted by his friend Matthew King.

Mr Bridgens said: "The garden is only two years old but I've tried to make it look more mature with the plants I have chosen.

"It's a suburban cottage garden with a tropical twist."

Among the plants in the garden are pardenamda, buddleia agorothosma, stewartia, halesia, schizandra and there are also water features.

Mr Bridgens said he spent a lot of time in the garden after suffering a heart attack three years ago.

He said he was looking forward to welcoming visitors to the two open days running from 2.30pm until 5.30pm.

They are being held as part of the National Gardens Scheme, which raises money for charity.

## NEWS in brief

### Sadness as park party is finished

DANCE groups say the loss of Stourbridge's Party in the Park is a "devastating blow" for the community and one less opportunity for them to reach out to boost trade.

Stourbridge and Black Country Events, also known as S&B Events Ltd, staged the last event at Mary Stevens Park, Norton, recently.

Spokesman for the Natasha Hansell School of Dance Tia Priest said everyone had been sad to hear it was the last Party in the Park.

### Potteries history in the spotlight

LIFE for workers in Worcestershire's pottery industry from the 1750s to the 1950s will be put under the spotlight at the next meeting of a history group.

Clent History Society will host an illustrated talk by Dr Malcolm Nixon at Clent Parish Hall, in Church Avenue, on May 17 starting at 8pm.

Dr Nixon spent all of his working life in the pottery industries of Staffordshire and Worcestershire.

There is an admission charge of £2.50 for non-members.

### Plans for a cafe at former club

Plans to convert a former Labour club in Brierley Hill into a community cafe have been lodged with council chiefs.

Bosses at Insight for Carers announced their proposals for the building in Pearson Street in March and have now submitted a planning application to Dudley Council.

The plans include creating a cafe, sensory room and day centre.

### Guidance offer for Olympic fun

COMMUNITY groups are being offered packs to help them organise Olympic-themed celebrations.

Groups who are staging activities to mark the games can apply for the "toolkits", which feature information about event planning. Any group that successfully registers with London 2012 could also receive up to a £250 grant.

### Give your views

DUDLEY people can have their say on the future of healthcare at a meeting on June 14 hosted by the Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group at the town's Concert Hall from 11am.

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THE BEST  
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A HEADLINE this week begged the Prime Minister: "Don't turn your back on the old." Sound advice. It also applies to wounded animals and anyone carrying a knife.

AGE is unkind to beauty and if Frances Barber feels she needs a facelift, so be it. But I hope the 54-year-old actress opts for the subtle sort that makes one look slightly surprised, rather than the radical option which leaves you unable to smile without lifting your elbows.

IT NOW turns out that the "Underpants Bomber" in Yemen was actually a CIA agent who posed as a volunteer for a suicide mission. So was there a plot at all? Nothing could prevent thousands of IRA bombings during the 30 years of The Troubles. Yet Al Qaeda plots are foiled time after time. Do you ever feel you are not being told the whole truth?

THE nation is horrified at the antics of Cambridge students filmed this week getting drunk, snogging and throwing up in flowerbeds. Thank goodness nothing like that ever happened when we were young.

AN accountancy firm reckons that one in four Brits may be on the wrong PAYE tax code. I have just received three codes in the space of 48 hours. I feel sure one of them must be right.

A NEW sailing season dawns and a chandlery mail-order catalogue arrives. The first three pages are devoted to falling overboard, catching fire and blowing yourself up with bottled gas. What a great pastime.

MEANWHILE, I understand the defeated President Sarkozy may join the Tea Party and become a Teakozzy.

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star**

# Olympic torch to blaze a trail across the borough

**WHETHER** travelling by land, water or rail, the Olympic Torch is sure of a bostin' Black Country welcome on its arrival in Dudley.

Visitors will be able to see the torchbearers from several vantage points as they pound through the streets on June 30.

The flame will travel at a sedate pace on a narrowboat from the Dudley Canal Trust, off Birmingham New Road through to the Black Country Living Museum, where it will make part of its journey on a tram.

Organisers hope to create a carnival atmosphere in Dudley when the flame comes to town. Torchbearers have won the opportunity to carry the Olympic flame through Dudley. Many were nominated for their work in the community or for charity. The torchbearers include Dudley people.

The torch will arrive at the north of the borough in Cosely at around 4.20pm.

Torchbearers will have already taken the flame through Wolverhampton before jogging down Birmingham New Road into Dudley.

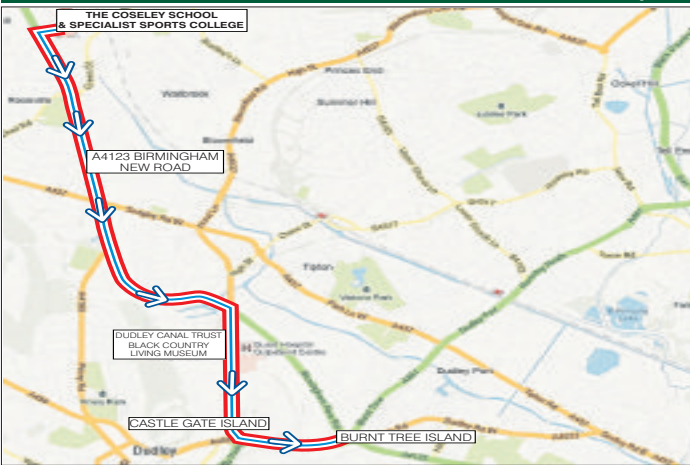
## Handover

The official handover will take place on Birmingham New Road at its junction with Shaw Road before it heads into Dudley borough. Pupils and staff from The Cosely School and Specialist Sports College are expected to gather to cheer the torch on its way. As the torchbearers continue down Birmingham New Road they will pass Cosely's Silver Jubilee Park.

The torch will then continue down Birmingham New Road, past the former Bean Industries site on the left hand side of the road. The route then sweeps down past the North Priory estate and on towards the entrance to the Dudley Canal Trust.

The venue is the first focal point for the relay through Dudley as the flame takes a unique journey on a narrowboat through the tunnels, lighting the dim, watery passageways, many of which date back to the 18th century.

**DUDLEY: JUNE 30, ARRIVAL TIME - 4.20pm**



The Olympic flame will be travelling on a narrowboat through the borough

Expert canal navigators will then guide the narrowboat to moor at the trust's link with the Black Country Living Museum. The spectacle will be watched by 1,000 lucky people who have won free tickets from a draw held by the museum.

Visitors are invited to enter into the spirit of the day and dress in early 1900s costume.

Torchbearers continue through the museum taking in sights such as the Bottle and Glass Inn. The flame will then hop on board a traditional tram for the final part of its journey through the museum. Museum director Andrew Lovett said: "I

feel so proud to welcome the Olympic Torch to Black Country Living Museum."

Visitors will then bid a fond farewell to the flame as it exits out on to the Tipton Road.

People will line the street as the torch passes the site for the new £6 million Dudley Archives and up towards the Castlegate island at the foot of Castle Hill.

It will then round the corner in the shadow of Dudley Castle and down Birmingham Road past the Castlegate retail park towards Burnt Tree. And that is where the flame will leave Dudley.

## Cancer mother taunted by yobs

A MOTHER battling cancer was reduced to tears by a gang of teenage yobs who mocked her bald head when she went out for the first time after undergoing chemotherapy.

Kim Palmer-Young had gone to the Tesco Express, in Kidderminster, when four teenagers pointed at and taunted her.

The 51-year-old nursery-nurse was diagnosed with Hodgkins Lymphoma in her neck late last year and has endured three gruelling chemotherapy sessions.

Her diagnosis was a double-blow to her four children who lost their father Mick to a brain haemorrhage in 2008, aged 49.

Mrs Palmer-Young had plucked up the courage to step out for the first time after undergoing the treatment when she was taunted by the gang.

She said the experience had been "confidence wrecking" and had set back her fight against the cancer.

After the taunts she fled from the store in tears and has been too distraught to leave the house since.

## Support group

A MEETING of Stourbridge's Bereavement Support group will take place on May 25. The session will run from 2pm until 5pm at St James's Church Hall, Belfry Drive, Wollaston.



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## Labs in the running to get award

HALESOWEN College is one of 28 universities, colleges and schools in the running for the S Lab Awards, which recognise new laboratories.

The S-Lab Initiative is supported by higher education funding bodies and the winners will be announced during a conference in June.

The college opened its new £5m teaching block, which has facilities and laboratories for Animal Care, Science and IT, in November last year.

Students have been taking advantage of the eight new laboratories and specialist equipment.

Jane Gill, curriculum team manager for science, said: "We are delighted to have been shortlisted for this prestigious award which recognises the improvements we have made in Halesowen."

"Our facilities are excellent and our students are benefiting from these enhanced areas of learning."

Building work has begun on the latest stage of a £20 million facelift of the college to offer more courses to prospective students.

Old 1960s buildings are being torn down and redeveloped as part of a revamp to its main Whittingham Road campus.

## Musical time

A PUBLIC garden in a Worcestershire town will host concerts. The Queen Elizabeth II Gardens, Load Street, Bewdley, will stage the shows on August 5, 12, 19 and 26.

# Just the ticket as the last conductor Michael is a VIP



Michael "Gerry" Byrne

IT'S MORE than 30 years since Michael "Gerry" Byrne was made redundant as the last bus conductor in Stourbridge – but he has returned to the new bus station as a VIP. Mr Byrne, now 94, was back at the, £7million, ultra-modern version – alongside a government minister and local dignitaries.

Mr Byrne met Justine Greening, transport secretary, who officially opened the Stourbridge Interchange, which links the bus terminal to the Stourbridge Town rail station. The father-of-eight, who now has 11 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, said: "I was a Midland Red conductor for 25 years from 1948."

He added: "Then I was a conductor under West Midlands Passenger Transport until I was made redundant in 1979. By then I was the last conductor on the buses locally."

"They were lovely days – there was more companionship and I used to ride into the countryside to places like Ludlow, Bridgnorth and Worcester."

"I used to ride my bike to the old Stourbridge bus station ready for the first bus at 5.10am, work until 1pm and then come back at 4.30pm for another four hours."

"I wanted the overtime because I had such a big family and I turned down a job as an inspector because I was earning more money than they did."

He also described the new interchange as "lovely".

The opening ceremony had a poignant tinge because Councillor Angus Adams, who was chairman of Centro and a driving force behind the building of the new station, died suddenly aged 67 in April.

Miss Greening said: "It's a fantastic new bus station for Stourbridge. It's wonderful to see just how many people have come together to work to make this thing happen and I would also like to pay tribute to Angus Adams for the work he did."

"I know that he really pushed this forward and I am sure that in many ways this would be a fitting tribute to him."

## Cash to carry on camping



Western Power Distribution's Neil Edwards, with Explorer Scouts, front, from left, Max Park-Davis and Hannah Rogers and, back, Rob George and Nick Wood

IT REALLY is a case of "carry on camping" for Explorer Scouts in a Black Country town.

Members of Stourbridge's Warriors Explorer Unit can keep on camping thanks to a donation from local electricity company Western Power Distribution (WPD).

The unit, which runs the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, has grown from six to more than 50 members, and camping equipment and maps were needed to enable more young people to take part.

WPD has donated £350 to buy the items needed.

Explorer Scout leader Mike Randle, said: "There's always a great team spirit amongst us and this donation has been a real boost to everyone involved."

"The Explorers were so excited when they heard the news. We will certainly make good use of the items we have been able to buy."

## Dead horse was dumped

A YOUNG horse was found "dumped like rubbish" with its feet tied together in the gateway to a field on the edge of the Black Country.

It is feared the horse may have first been drowned before being dumped.

The RSPCA was called to the grim discovery, in Western Road, Hagley, near Stourbridge.

The mainly black pony, which had a white tuft along its back and a tiny amount of white in its tail, was described by the RSPCA as being very thin and generally in a poor condition. The RSPCA is now appealing for information or details about the identity of the pony's owner.

"The pony may have been drowned – or because it was in a poor condition it could have collapsed and fallen into water and been submerged," said RSPCA inspector Adrian Langley.

Anyone with details should call the cruelty and advice line on 0300 1234 999.

## NEWS in brief

### Jazz concerts at town warehouse

JAZZ musicians from across the country will be playing in Stourbridge over the coming months.

The shows at the Bonded Warehouse, Canal Street, Stourbridge, all start at 7.30pm. Admission is £7 with concessions of £3.50 for students or under-16s.

The Simon Deeley Trio will perform on June 8 accompanied by Ian Hill and Cormac Loane on saxophones and trombonist Richard Baker.

The concert is called Jazz Composers Spotlight. Call 01384 377797.

### MP Kelly hears voters' frustration

A DUDLEY Tory MP says he has heard the electorate loud and clear after the party was ousted by Labour on Dudley Council in the local elections.

Dudley South MP Chris Kelly said residents have become frustrated with the coalition Government.

He said, in order to make their frustration clear, many people who would normally vote Conservative didn't.

"They did so to send a message to the Government."

### Plants for sale

BEDDING plants for gardens and pots will be on sale on May 26 at St Mark's Church, in Fairfield, near Stourbridge.

The plant sale starts at 10am, with all proceeds going towards the upkeep of the church in Stourbridge Road.

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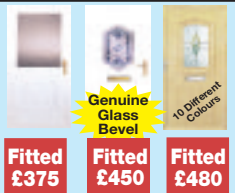
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### Experts offering checks

PEOPLE in Wyre Forest are being offered a free health MoT by medical experts.

Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust's health trainers are offering the checks, which include blood pressure, Body Mass Index, blood sugar levels and carbon monoxide levels for smokers.

The session is at Age UK in Castle Road Kidderminster between 11am and 12.30pm on May 14.

Health trainer co-ordinator Jayne McCullough said: "Following the winter health MoTs, we have managed to support numerous people with lifestyle changes after highlighting unknown conditions, such as diabetes and high blood pressure.

"The health trainer service is not just here to identify potential problems to people but to help them find solutions by offering on-going support."

The trainers will also be offering free health checks at venues in Droitwich and Bromsgrove.

For further details about the checks, call 01905 681333 or visit www.hacv.nhs.uk/healthtrainers

### Rail line is off to 1940s

VISITORS can step back in time to the 1940s when the Severn Valley Railway hosts two heritage weekends.

Previous events have attracted hundreds of visitors.

The weekend events will be held on June 23 and 24 and June 30 and July 1.

# £1.5m funding cuts will hit budgets at colleges

## Dale makes the cut



Hairdresser Dale Wooldridge has won a top styling award

A HAIRDRESSER at a Kidderminster salon has proved she can make the cut after winning a top prize.

Dale Wooldridge, aged 23, who works at Andrea Beers in Mill Street, impressed the judges with her cutting and colouring skills.

She created an alternative look and won Reflections Training Academy's NVQ Level II Hairdresser of the Year gold award. Miss

Wooldridge, who lives in Marlpool has been training while working at Andrea Beers and qualified three months ago. The award ceremony was held at Second City Suite, Birmingham and she said it was "a complete surprise" when her name was read out as the winner.

"I put a lot of effort in to it and it paid off. It's really nice to have my hard work recognised," she said.

HALESOWEN College's funding has been slashed by around £1 million and Kidderminster College's by £440,000, but jobs are unlikely to be axed as a result.

Meanwhile, Stafford College does face job losses after its Government funding was cut by £2.5 million but Stourbridge College has won an extra £900,000 after a student recruitment.

The mixed picture continues at Dudley College, where principal Lowell Williams says funding is "broadly the same" as last year.

Keith Bate, principal of Halesowen College, said: "We've had a reduction of funding in the region of £1 million for next year but we had planned for that."

"We delivered an operating surplus last year of £2.6 million so this is manageable."

Andy Dobson, principal at Kidderminster College, said: "We have a cut of £440,000 in funding for the coming year but that is not as significant as at some colleges and we will manage our finances."

"We don't anticipate any redundancies, although money will be tight and we may choose not to sub-contract certain items and there may be a reduction in part-time staff we take on," Mr Dobson said the college made 12 voluntarily redundant last year.

Stourbridge College spokesman Mags Winthrop said: "Our funding is tied up with target levels. We did really well last year and recruited 130 more full-time students aged 16 to 18 than the year previously, which means our funding from September increases in this area by about £900,000."

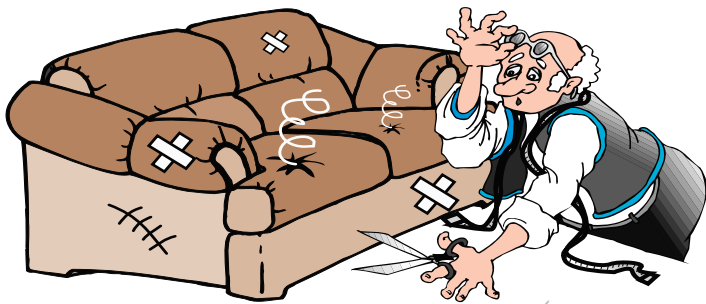
### Equality trustees wanted

A DUDLEY organisation which promotes equality for ethnic minority communities across the Black Country needs new trustees for its board.

The Dudley Centre for Equality requires a team of trustees and hopes to fill its four vacancies by the end of summer.

Anyone interested is invited to call 01938 456166 or email admin@cfed.org.uk.

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## Sarah sets sights on Sahara



Sarah Hollies, of Wollaston, prepares for her trek across the Sahara

A Black Country grandmother will lace up her walking boots for a five-day trek across the Sahara Desert to raise more than £1,000 for charity.

Sarah Hollies, of Wollaston, will set out on the epic journey on November 4 and is training to build up her stamina for the challenge.

The London Midland worker decided on the trip to help Breakthrough Breast Cancer charity but wanted to go somewhere

different than usual walking challenges. The 52-year-old will be joined on the trek by an old school friend, who now lives in Majorca.

She is being supported by her family and friends and has already raised nearly £1,000. Sarah has paid for the trip herself, and has already completed walks of more than 16 miles.

To sponsor Sarah take a look at her website at [www.justgiving.co/sarah-sahara](http://www.justgiving.co/sarah-sahara)



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## thechronicle

### Town is set for carnival

PREPARATIONS are gathering pace for a carnival that is expected to attract thousands to a Midland town.

Bewdley Carnival will be on June 16 starting at 1pm with the traditional procession starting in Hales Park, Cleobury Road, before making its way through the centre of the town ending at the carnival field in Stourport Road.

The parade will be led by carnival princesses Lauren Watkins, 11, Libby Hawkswell, 8, Kayla Botfield, 9, and Daisy Hughes, 5. Entertainment will put on with the main event being a fire stunt spectacular.

# Details are drawn up

**DETAILED designs are being drawn up for a £20 million retail development, creating up to 500 jobs, on the site of an outdated office block in Dudley.**

Residents were able to give their views on the scheme for Falcon House in The Minories at a consultation event.

Now their responses are being used for a planning application which is due to be submitted in the summer.

If approved, work on the scheme, which is one of two proposed supermarkets in the town centre, will get under way in 2014.

Plans for a supermarket on the site

of Cavendish House in Trindle Road have already been lodged with council chiefs.

Falcon House is in the New Mill Gate area of the town, which Dudley Council has said it is keen to see redeveloped. It is currently only used as offices by the council, which has a short-term lease.

Under the plans the building, which dates back to the 1960s, would be knocked down by owner Commercial Estates Group. A retail development is expected to be anchored by a foodstore.

The proposals were praised by shoppers during the consultation event held in March. Around 300 people viewed the plans, which went on public display for two days.

Spokeswoman for Commercial Estates Group Rebekah Paczek said:

"We're going through consultation responses and finalising details of the scheme."

Developers say the revamp will help to bring more people into the town centre and boost other regeneration projects.

Meanwhile a planning application for the Cavendish House scheme was lodged with council chiefs.

The office block, which has been empty for four years, will be demolished and a supermarket, creating 300 jobs, will be built in its place.

Residents have been calling for vandalised Cavendish House to be knocked down for some time, labelling it an "eyesore". Many of the windows are boarded up or broken.

## Bishop adds his voice to campaign over VAT

THE BISHOP of Worcester is joining a crusade to press the Government to reconsider its budget proposals to impose 20 per cent VAT on alterations to listed churches.

Of the Grade 1 listed buildings in England, 45 per cent are Church of England buildings, and most are medieval, making their maintenance, repair and alteration very expensive.

Although churches receive grants from English Heritage and the Heritage Lottery, much of the repairs rely on the voluntary giving by parishioners.

Dr John Inge, Bishop of Worcester, said: "Serious consequences to listed places of worship in the proposed VAT

changes seem not to have been foreseen by the Government.

"I am quite sure the imposition of 20 per cent VAT will have a detrimental impact on this work across the Diocese of Worcester."

He added that Castlemorton Church, near Malvern, faced having to find another £9,000 or £10,000 for the VAT in order to install toilets and a kitchenette in the rural building.

Bishops are asking for VAT on alterations to listed places of worship to remain zero-rated and are urging people to sign the Church of England's petition at <http://epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/32229>.

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## LETTERS

# Government is to blame

THIS Coalition Government is entirely to blame for their poor showing at the recent poll in my opinion and no doubt thousands of others.

It is not a united party and to put things bluntly it was not what the majority of voters, Tory or Liberal wanted after a General Election.

The promises made to voters at the time have as usual not been kept, i.e. a cut in immigration, a repeal of

the hated Human Rights Act which is exploited beyond belief by criminals, terrorists and anybody else who see us as a soft touch and gets away with it.

People as a whole are not too difficult to please, but when voting time comes around as these May elections have proved these broken election promises play a major part in the final outcome when votes are counted; it's just the way it is.

I'm 76 years old and I cannot grumble too much. However I've seen this country due to one thing or another slip down the ratings in every walk of life and getting worse. So, if lessons are to be learned from these latest poll results this coalition Government must change and change now if it wants to stay in power.

**M SLATER**  
**Rowan Rise**  
**Kingswinford**

## Call to all veterans to celebrate forces day

ONCE again Dudley Council is delighted to be holding Armed Forces Day at Himley Hall on Sunday July 1.

This great event sponsored which celebrates the work and lives of present and past servicemen and women.

As part of the event we will once again be presenting HM Armed Forces Veterans Badges and I'm appealing to men and women who have served in the armed forces at any time, to get in touch with us, if they would like it presented to them, on 01384 815222. Contact Service Personnel and Veterans Agency, Norcross, Thornton-Cleveleys, Lancashire, FY5 3WP or call free on 0800 169 2277. People can also email SPVA-Veterans-Badges@mod.uk

**JOHN POLYCHRONAKIS,**  
**Dudley Council**

## LETTERS

to the Editor

## POST

Halesowen Chronicle,  
Chronicle Editorial, 51-53  
Queen Street, Wolverhampton  
WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

## E-MAIL

dudleychrons@  
expressandstar.co.uk

## Squeezers ruin the loaves for everyone

FOR A long time I have been angered by the loaves I buy at my local supermarket, which when opened are torn and unusable.

The store tells me they can do nothing about it. The reason is plain when you see people squeezing loaves so they imagine they are getting a "good one". The last loaf I bought had ten torn and unusable slices.

The people who squeeze the bread clearly still live in the past when the local baker mixed his own dough, lit his coal-fired, brick oven and judged when the bread was ready.

There were so many variables that each loaf was different and individual selection may well have been advantageous. That's how it was when I was a child.

The squeezers clearly have not noticed things have changed. Enormous batches of dough are baked in thermostatically controlled fan ovens with no cool corners or hot spots, loaves are identical and all the squeezers achieve is to do damage. For the supermarket's information I no longer buy bread but have porridge for my breakfast.

**DAVID YOUNG, Brierley Hill**

## thechronicle

## Delight at losing the control of council

LIKE most Council tax payers I have a long memory and that's why I'm absolutely delighted the Conservatives lost control of Dudley Council.

They rubber-stamped the closure of Coseley Baths on the same day that they awarded themselves a 22 per cent rise.

Then, while they were telling everyone they had no money to repair the baths they purchased (for an undisclosed fee) the Old Gala Bingo hall on Castle Street only to announce earlier this year they were considering having it demolished because they didn't know what to do with it. I hope this new Labour council can do a better job but I'm not holding my breath.

**SEAN PERCIVAL,**  
**Sedgley**

## Toilets are too small

THE new toilets at Stourbridge interchange are not very big.

Instead of all the open space by each bus stand, they could have made the toilets bigger.

It's a good job I'm small. If a large person went in they would get stuck. It was a waste of money they have spent on the interchange.

**PAULA DAVIES,**  
**Norton**

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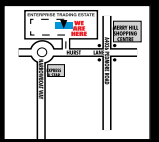
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North (centre) with all the BP workers with more than 25 years service in 1953



John Dudley North CBE



North in the record-breaking Type 10 Charabanc in 1913



With the mayor, Sir Charles Mander in 1940



North (hatless) by the pioneering all-metal Boulton &amp; Paul Bolton in 1922



Labour Air Minister Roy Jenkins, with North at a conference about Concorde

# Pioneer North was star in the world of aviation

**JOHN Dudley North was one of the great pioneers of British aviation.**

Not so well known as those who gave their names to famous aircraft companies like Geoffrey De Havilland, Frederick Handley Page and Richard Fairey, nevertheless he wielded as much influence over one particular company as any of them, the local aircraft builder, Boulton Paul Aircraft.

North began an apprenticeship in marine engineering, but in 1911 joined the infant aircraft maker, The Aeronautical Syndicate at Hendon.

When that folded he moved next door to Grahame White Aviation, and soon became chief engineer. One of the aircraft he designed there was the first British aircraft to loop the loop, and his Type 10 Charabanc set a World Record in 1913, by lifting 10 people aloft on the power of its 120 hp engine.

In 1915, aged just 22, he came to the Midlands, helping set up aircraft production lines at Austin Motors and starting up its design office.

Like Austins, Boulton & Paul, a Norwich joinery company, was brought into aircraft manufacturing with Gov-



By Alec Brew

ernment orders. It soon decided to start their own design office, and recruited North as chief engineer.

For more than 50 years he was to be its dominate influence, retiring as chairman. He pioneered the use of metal in aircraft structures, which led to Boulton & Paul being trusted with the design and construction of the largest aircraft ever made in this country, the R.101 Airship.

As aircraft speeds increased he led the way in producing fully enclosed power operated gun turrets for his Overstrand bomber.

He bought the rights to a French electro-hydraulic turret which would arm the famous Defiant fighter and form the basis for the aviation work on which the company thrives to this day.

In 1934 the aircraft department of Boulton & Paul was sold off, and became Boulton Paul Aircraft Ltd. A factory was built on a green-field site at

Pendeford, and 600 Norfolk workers moved to Wolverhampton.

It built nearly 2,000 Boulton Paul gun turrets armed Allied aircraft during the Second World War.

The electro-hydraulic technology of the turrets was applied to the design of power control units which were increasingly used in jet aircraft, and the company was at the forefront in designing electronic fly-by-wire controls, as used in Concorde and modern combat aircraft and airliners.

He oversaw the merger of 'his' company with that of his great friend George Dowty. The firm which, after a series of take-overs, became Moog Aerospace.

North was a self taught man with a brilliant mind, who absorbed scientific knowledge and was able to apply it to practical engineering solutions.

He loved cricket and alpinism and cultivated a fine alpine garden at his Bridgnorth home.

North died in 1968; he been awarded a CBE, but it is difficult to understand why he never received the knighthood he deserved, for honing the cutting edge of British aviation for 55 years.



North shows Sir Archiebald Sinclair turret parts in 1942



A 50 years service award in 1967 is presented by his friend George Dowty, with Mrs North



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thechronicle

# Theatre group in a race against time over store

## Drive in to see Grease



Steph Woodbine and Matt Meredith from Westfield Merry Hill's concert team are all ready to cruise to the drive-in movie

THE WORD is the classic 70s film Grease is coming to the big screen at Dudley's Merry Hill shopping centre.

A drive-in movie event will take place on May 31 proceeds from which will aid Merry Hill's charity for the year, Rollercoasters. The charity helps 40 disabled or ill children in Dudley to have fun and make friends. People need to head to

P2 car park outside Debenhams to watch the film. To gain entry and free popcorn to the retro night out, simply buy a programme at the concierge desk in the centre. The gates open at 7pm and the film will begin promptly at 9pm.

Marketing manager Kelly Reed said: "We can't wait to see everyone having a blast and singing along to all the Grease classics."

A DUDLEY theatre group is looking for a new props store because its current unit is about to be demolished.

Dudley Little Theatre, created in 1947, is appealing for help to find new premises before the end of the month. At the present they are using a site in Pelham Street, Wolverhampton.

But it is being knocked down as part of a new housing development.

If no-one comes forward before May 31, the group will have nowhere to keep its stock of furniture which is vital for their productions.

The new location ideally needs to be within easy access of Netherton Arts Centre, where its performances are held.

The furniture was originally kept next to the arts centre in the old police station - but that was demolished as part of the Netherton Regeneration Scheme.

The company, which has more than 100 members, has used the Pelham Street unit for five years for the furniture.

Member John Lucock said: "If we don't get another space then we will have to throw it all down the tip which would be awful as this is very important for our productions."

"We desperately need someone to come forward and help us."

"We are an amateur group and it is not viable for us to pay anything like commercial prices for rent."

Anyone who can help should call the theatre group on 01384 259267 or 07711 491867.

## Booking free gas checks

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**thechronicle**

# Customers left in limbo as bridal shop shuts up

**THE SUDDEN** closure of dress shop has left brides-to-be and school students preparing for their proms without dresses for their big days.

Orders had been placed months in advance with Marion Vaughan Bridal Studio, Lower High Street, Stourbridge.

But worried customers said they were stunned when they arrived at the store to see the shelves and racks stripped.

They say they have made repeated calls to the shop in a bid to get an answer.

Liz Brewerton, aged 53, ordered her daughter's prom dress, which had still not arrived with just three days to go. She paid deposits and other costs of £140 for the emerald dress in February ahead of settling a £275 bill upon delivery.

Mrs Brewerton, of Wordsley, said she had received an email from the firm which said Marion Vaughan Bridal Studio Ltd had "ceased trading".

She said the email stated the firm offered its sincere apologies for any inconvenience and said it would be transferring her deposit back to her bank account.

Mrs Brewerton's 16-year-old daughter Laura, a pupil at Summerhill School, Kingswinford, had looked at a number of dresses at different stores before settling on her dream design.

Greg Chapman and his bride-to-be Jacqueline Dunn placed a £65 deposit on February 11 to order a £200 wedding dress which would take up to 12 weeks to arrive.

No-one from Marion Vaughan Bridal Studio Ltd was available for comment.

## Floats wanted for parade

A POPULAR community event will be taking to the streets of Bewdley next month starting with a walking and float parade through the town centre.

The event will start in Hales Park, on the Cleobury Road, and end at the carnival field in Stourport Road on June 16. Residents interested in entering a float or walking group should call 01299 401841 for details.

## Musical with family ties



Maria, played by Charlotte Wood, with the Von Trapp children, clockwise from top, played by Matthew Evans, Lara Mitchell, Stephen Drew, Bella Moreton, Ellie Woodward, Annie Fellows and Millie Brown

KINVER Light Operatic Society is staging its version of the classic Rodgers and Hammerstein musical Sound of Music.

The musical runs at the Edgecliff Theatre, Kinver until May 19 with nightly performances and a matinee on Saturday. The family connection goes further than the fictional Von Trapps, with relatives of different

generations on stage together. Bella Moreton, aged eight, stars as Gretl Von Trapp, while her mum, Cathy Moreton, plays Sister Sophia. Millie Brown, 10, plays Brigitta Von Trapp - and her brother, Joe Brown, is Nazi soldier Rolf. Ellie Woodward, 12, plays Louisa Von Trapp, with her mother, Rachel Woodward, as a nun. For tickets call 01384 836963.

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thechronicle

# Fans are given a say in building future for Yeltz



Halesowen U13s with the trophy and members of the Yeltz Trust and Yeltz Athletic

**SUPPORTERS** have secured a seat on the board of Halesowen football club which is fighting back a year after almost going under financially.

Halesowen Town Football Club's new owner Steve Lynch granted a request by fans' group, the Yeltz Trust, to have a representative on the board.

Former trust chairman Gary Willetts has taken up the role and says ground improvements are a priority. Mr Willetts commended the new owner for stabilising the club and allowing fans to have a voice.

"It is amazing to think where we have come in the last 12 months because the club had basically gone this time last year," he said.

"But it has been down to Steve who has stabilised the club and we are now moving in the right direction."

"Steve has put the day-to-day running into the hands of a committee made up of people from all around this club and it is working well. Anything supporters want to say now they can come to me and it is raised with the committee - at least there is a discussion now."

He says the club, which plays at The Grove stadium, Old Hawne Lane, is now looking to making improvements around the ground. They want to update the press area, the dressing rooms and the pitch.

The Yeltz Trust held its first Community Day recently to build relations with the town. Penalty shoot-out contests, live music and exhibition matches were among the events organised at the ground.

## Construction can be a lark

TWO PAIRS of nesting skylarks have delayed construction of a new £500,000 hockey pitch.

The birds have been hovering above the site in Stourport, leading wildlife experts to warn they are probably nesting so construction cannot begin until young fledge.

A new, all-weather pitch to be built at Stourport Sports Club in Kingsway.

## Somerset 5 day trip £166!

It's true! You can now have a fantastic 5-day coach trip to the village of Street in glorious Somerset for a special one-off price this June...

**There's no hidden charges, - just an unbeatable offer - Here's the full details...**

• **Mon:** You'll arrive at the hotel late afternoon. Settle-in and look forward to dinner and a spot of entertainment later.

• **Tue:** A trip to the historic market town of Glastonbury. This afternoon we also visit Wells - England's smallest City with one of the most outstanding Cathedrals

• **Wed:** Full day out to the beautiful city of Bath

• **Thu:** Today is left free to Explore Street and we travel home on Friday.

**The Wessex Hotel, Street ★★**

Right in the village centre - at one end of the high Street with shops, cosy pubs and tea rooms on your doorstep. • Good food. • All 50 guest rooms have full facilities. • Lift. • Regular evening entertainment • Patio and Garden.

**You must be quick - we're limited to ONE coach at this 'silly' price!**

**Departs: Mon 18th June £166**

Price includes: 4 nights D/B/B plus trips out as shown

## Bideford 4 day trip £144!

It's true! You can now have a fantastic 4-day coach trip to Bideford and glorious north Devon for a special one-off price!

**Don't look for any 'catches' there aren't any! - Here's the full details...**

**Friday:** We arrive this afternoon at the lovely Durrant House hotel Bideford for 4 nights D/B/B basis and days out on Saturday and Sunday

**Saturday:** We visit two picturesque coastal fishing villages. Appledore and Ilfracombe.

**Sunday:** We go to Exmoor National Park stopping at the twin villages of Lynton and Lynmouth. Included is a ride on the unique water operated cliff railway dating back to 1890.

On the way back to our hotel we'll stop at while in Dunster a beautiful medieval village.

**Monday:** We travel home on after a last, hearty breakfast.

**Durrant House Hotel, Bideford ★★**

Modern, spacious hotel of 3 star standard with two restaurants, two bars, and a large ballroom offering something different by way of entertainment most nights.

**Special Offer- Fri 27th July £144**

Price includes: 3 nights D/B/B plus trips out as shown.

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## Ireland 5 day Coach holiday £196

It's true! You can now you can have a wonderful 5 day coach trip to Co. Waterford this May for £196. Staying in a lovely hotel on the coast in Co. Waterford, you'll enjoy visiting Kilkenny, Cork and Blarney (all FREE trips)...and it's all for just £196...

**There's no hidden charges, absolutely no 'catches' - just an unbeatable offer for Ireland - Here's the full details...**

**Day 1:** Join our coach this morning on a leisurely journey to Fishguard and board the 2:30pm Ferry to Rosslare in Ireland. Crossing takes 3½ hours and then, it's about 1½ hours drive to our hotel in the harbour town of Dungarvan in Co. Waterford.

**Days 2, 3:** Trips out include Kilkenny City, Cork and Blarney

**Day 4:** Today is left free so you can explore Dungarvan itself at your own pace

**Day 5:** Leave for home after breakfast

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## Lakes Fantastic Mini Break for £89

It's true! You can now have a fantastic mini break in the Lake District for just £89. Staying in a lovely 3 star hotel, you'll enjoy a train ride through the Leven Valley and a cruise on Windermere...and it's all for just £89...

**There's no hidden charges, - just an unbeatable offer - Here's the full details...**

Join our coach on Sunday morning for a leisurely journey to the Lake District. Once in Cumbria, our first stop is in the charming village of Cartmel. We'll spend a leisurely hour or so here, then go on to our lovely 3 star hotel in Grange-over-Sands

**Shap Wells Hotel ★★**

A beautiful location - in a secluded wooded valley in the Shap Wells surrounded by mountain streams. We arrive with time to settle-in and freshen-up before dinner.

**Monday:** enjoy a hearty breakfast prior to a special day in the Lake District. First we board a steam train for a short ride through the beautiful scenery of the Leven Valley, then a 40 minute cruise on s Lake Windermere to Bowness. A few hours free time here then go on to Grasmere before we depart the Lakes for home.

Price includes: Coach, hotel, dinner, full choice breakfast and trips out including train and boat trip.

**Departs Sun 24th June & 9th Sep £89**

## Blackpool Illuminations 4 star Break £79

A fabulous short break - see the famous Lights and the Lake District and stay at the Hilton Blackpool with dinner and full breakfast - Just £79

**Day 1 Sunday:** Meet your coach on Sunday morning for our leisurely journey up to Blackpool.

We arrive at your hotel late afternoon with time to settle-in before dinner a bit later.

After dinner (around 7:30pm) your coach will be waiting to take you on a tour of the famous Golden Mile.

The least traffic is on Sunday evenings so it's a good time to enjoy the Lights.

We return to the hotel later this evening - and you could always enjoy a nightcap or two in the hotel bar - or try one of the many other hotels just outside on the Promenade.

**Day 1 Monday:** Wake to a hearty breakfast (or something lighter, there's plenty of options) then we go up to the Lake District where you'll have time to yourself in Bowness and Ambleside before we leave the Lakes for home - arriving back early evening.

We stay at the **Hilton Hotel Blackpool ★★** Located on North Promenade, this is a fine, modern hotel with bar, restaurant, indoor pool. All guest rooms with full modern facilities. Lift to all floors

Price includes: Hotel on D/B/B basis and all coach travel and trips out as stated. Single Supp £20

**Dates: Sun 2nd and 16th September £79**

## Palace Shows Royal Jewels

During the Summer opening of Buckingham Palace this year there will be a spectacular exhibition of the Royal Family's Diamonds to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

This sparkling showcase of diamonds features a series of fantastic jewels that been used to decorate regalia, bought for personal use or simply inherited in the passing down of gifts from previous generations of Royals. This exhibition is a must-see!

**Join our 2-day coach break...**

Join our coach on Sunday morning for London. With a Brunch & comfort stop on route, we should arrive Knightsbridge early afternoon and the coach will set down close to Harrods so you can enjoy a few hours shopping plus time for lunch. Later we go on to our hotel for overnight stay. Thistle Hotel Heathrow.

**Monday:** After breakfast we leave the hotel for our pre-booked visit to Buckingham Palace. The fabulous State Rooms are lavishly furnished with some of the greatest treasures from the Royal Collection PLUS this year only, there's a special display of the Royal Jewels.

After the Palace we board the coach for Covent Garden - a myriad of unusual shops and those famous street entertainers. We leave London for home late afternoon

Price includes: coach travel, hotel, full breakfast and entrance to Buckingham Palace. Single Supp £20

**Departs: Sun 9th September £89**

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## thechronicle

# Killer punch barber fails in appeal over sentence

A BARBER who killed a father with a single punch as his fiancée and young daughter looked on outside a Dudley off-licence has lost an appeal against his sentence.

Marcus Hutton suffered a blow to the head when he was hit by Delroy Hines in a fracas in Priory Road on July 9. Mr Hutton, of Priory Road, died in hospital after being placed on a life support machine.

Father-of-four Hines, aged 36, pleaded guilty at Wolverhampton Crown Court to the manslaughter of 30-year-old Mr Hutton. He was jailed for five years by Judge John Warner at Wolverhampton Crown Court in December.

Hines of Upper Gornal and who had an "appalling" criminal record of "using violence to solve a problem" - had left the scene then returned a few minutes later to pick up his hat before leaving again, the Court of Appeal in London heard.

Mr Hutton was walking to his home in Dudley with his partner and nine-year-old daughter - and took exception to Hines looking at his partner's bottom, judges were told. Lawyers representing Hines, of Upper Gornal, last week unsuccessfully attempted to persuade three appeal judges the sentence was too long.

Judge Goldstone accepted Hines had shown "genuine remorse" but added: "He has, simply but unfortunately, an unhappy tendency to use violence as a way of solving a problem."

## Film matinees at hall

A NEW series of matinee film screenings at Stourbridge Town Hall has been announced.

The screening on June 11 will be the multi-Oscar winning silent movie The Artist, with 1957 classic The Prince and The Showgirl a week later. All films are screened at the Wollaston Suite and start at 1.30pm. Admission is £3. To book visit [www.dudley.gov.uk](http://www.dudley.gov.uk)

## Singing to raise notes



Front, organisers Brian Williams, and Geoff Clarke, centre, Stuart Edwards, Pete Hawthorne, and Meirion Bowen, and, top, Brian Powney, Stan Randle, and Roger Haigh

CHORISTERS will take part in a mass performance at Dudley Concert Hall for charity next month.

Male choirs from Warley, Cradley Heath and Kingswinford will be among seven groups performing on June 30 from 7pm.

There will also be performances from soloist Louise Goode and the Holborne Brass Ensemble.

Proceeds will be split between Burnaid and the Midland Air Ambulance. Tickets cost £12. For information call 0121 502 5330.

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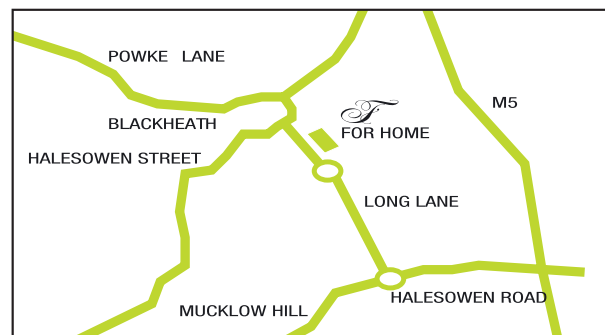
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**thechronicle**

# Reunion to mark 100th Baggeridge anniversary

Memories of a former colliery that employed thousands of men from the Black Country and Staffordshire will be recalled to mark its 100th birthday.

A cafe owner at a beauty spot on the land where the Baggeridge pit used to stand is inviting former miners to a reunion to mark the centenary of their old colliery swinging into full-time production.

The mine, near Sedgley, opened in 1912 and closed down 56 years later in 1968. It was later turned into the Baggeridge Country Park attraction.

Now David Daly, who owns the Baggeridge Tea Shop, is organising a special event on May 26 to commemorate the old pit and the people who worked there.

He is inviting ex-employees of the colliery, their families and tea shop regulars and is putting on a free buffet for them from midday to 2pm.

There will also be live music played by regulars at the cafe. Mr Daly is also urging anyone with old photographs of the mine or its



A worker in the Baggeridge pit, once the deepest coal mine in the



Organiser David Daly



Baggeridge Colliery in its heyday

## Annual charity clay

An annual clay shoot for Mary Steven's Hospice in Stourbridge will be held on June 16. The event, the sixth to be held, will take place at the Cross Guns Shooting Ground in Kinver and is suitable for beginners and professionals alike.

The recommended party size is four to six people. The individual cost is £13 for 20 clays. Call 01384 377778.

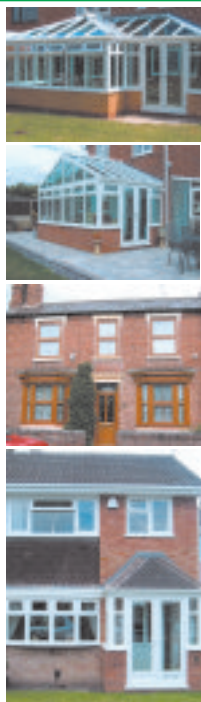
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# Young and old turn out for big run in the sun



Cobra Running and Triathlon Club member Scott Taylor, aged 36, with son Noah Taylor, six, and daughter Orlaith Taylor, five, from Halesowen

**THE SUN** was shining for runners as they pulled on their trainers to take part in a long-standing race.

Around 120 keen runners from clubs around the region took part in the Cobra Classic 10k from the Old Halesonians sports ground, Wassell Grove, near Hagley, at the weekend.

Cobra Running and Triathlon Club hosted the event, and organisers said they were delighted with the turnout.

Dozens of youngsters and their families also took part in a mini fun run which was held just before the main event.

Among them was Cobra club member Scott Taylor who took his daughter Orlaith, aged five, and six-year-old son Noah to the event. "I thought it would be a good event to take part in, and the weather is good, so I bought the kids down with me," he said.

Members of Halesowen Athletics and Cycling Club lined up at the start ready for

the off alongside members of other clubs including Dudley Kingswinford.

Runner Caroline Lambert, 44, said: "We always try to support our local races, and this is one of the good ones. The weather is good, it is tough though."

They strode out from the grounds at 10.30am on the route which takes in the scenic countryside around Hagley and Halesowen.

## Running

Winner of the men's race was Daniel Robinson of Birmingham Running and Triathlon Club in 36.22mins with Stourbridge Running Club member Louise Collins the first woman home in a time of 43.42mins.

Fun run winner was Lily Higgins, 12, from Stourbridge, who is a member of Halesowen Athletics and Cycling Club.

Race director Chris Pearson said: "We have had a good turnout this year, and we are pleased so many come out to support the race."



Top from left, Les Woods, Caroline Lambert, Sam Love, Andy Jones, Marion Bailey, Adrian Low, front, Grace Taylor, Olivia Taylor, Kharis Flower and Lily Higgins

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- Dudley Walk-in Centre, Holly Hall Clinic, Stourbridge Road is available 8am-8pm, 365 days a year for minor illness and injuries. Tel: 0330 123 9225
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Llangollen trip is still in pipeline

**WOLLASTON E TOWNSWOMEN**

SOME 45 members attended the April meeting and were warmly welcomed by chairwoman, Jean Latham.

After apologies were read, the secretary gave the minutes of the previous meeting which were duly passed.

Treasurer Margaret Gregory gave a favourable account of the finances, but requested that the £20 payment for the annual dinner at Blakelands be paid at the next meeting.

The meeting place for the McMillan walk on Tuesday, day June 19 is the White Hart, Kinner at 6.30pm. The cost of the après meal is £5.

The proposed trip to Llangollen on Friday, August 3 is still in the pipeline but more support is required for this venture before it can finally be arranged.

Certificates for 40 years service were presented by the chairman to proud recipients, Marion Clarke, Betty Noke and Hazel Needham.

Vicky Perry, the 2011-12 National President of the Ladies Circle gave a very interesting and informative talk on this organisation.

Everyone enjoyed learning more about the charitable work these ladies do and the chairman and members showed their appreciation.

Competition winners were Hazel Needham and Sue Ward and raffle prizes went to Ann McKenzie and Jill Dunn.

**CLUB NEWS****Canal enthusiast talk a cut above**

The guest speaker was Graham Fisher MBE

**BLACK COUNTRY SOCIETY**

GRAHAM Fisher MBE was the guest speaker when the Kingswinford branch met in St Mary's Church hall.

"Jewels on the Cut" was an examination of the Stourbridge glass industry from the perspective of the Stourbridge Canal. Jewels on the Cut is also the title of his recent book.

Graham has been a canal enthusiast all his life and regularly explores the canal network in his restored narrow boat.

He talked about the Portland Vase and of attempts to revive techniques of the making of this Roman cameo glass, lost for 2,000 years.

Glassmaking is still taking place in the area and at the Ruskin Centre (formerly Webb &amp; Corbett glass works Terri Colledge has been working upon a new "Portland Vase" replica for the 2012 International Glass Festival.

**Tale of the 'Merry Monarch'**

AT THE April meeting, Ken Gilkes talked about the flight of King Charles II after the Battle of Worcester on September 3 1651.

Mr Gilkes has always lived in the Brewod area where he travelled via Chad-desley Corbett and Stour-bridge.

He illustrated the talk with slides of the houses and

**MYTIME OVER FIFTIES**

buildings visited by King Charles, including the White Ladies Priory, to where he travelled via Chad-desley Corbett and Stour-bridge.

There was a £1,000 reward for his capture and

he spent September 4 hiding in the Spring Coppice while Parliamentarians from Codsall searched for him. He hid in an oak tree at Boscobel House, moved on to Moseley Old Hall and then to Bentley Hall in Walsall.

He finally left England from Shoreham near Brighton and spent nine years on the continent before return-

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## Companies need more cash support Cable told

MANUFACTURERS in the Midlands need more financial support to help growth, according to firm owners who have met the Business Secretary Vince Cable.

Directors Kevin O'Toole and Laura Loveys, of Dudley firm Eurocraft Enclosures travelled to Westminster for talks with the Government minister.

The talks were organised by Dudley North MP Ian Austin who wanted to highlight the issue with the ministers to help boost support from business.

Eurocraft, which employs more than 100 people from its site in Cinder Bank, Netherton, says while the company is profitable, its opportunities for further

growth and job creation are restricted by the lack available finance.

The firm designs, manufactures and supplies telecommunication housings for companies such as BT and Virgin and recently won contracts ahead of international competitors.

Firm managing director, Kevin O'Toole, said: "Eurocraft is typical of many small and medium enterprise companies who need access to affordable finance options."

Mr Austin, who spoke of the firm's experiences in the House of Commons, added: "Getting the banks lending again is vital to supporting firms and getting the economy moving again."

## Gaffe cripples composer

**A CRITICALLY-acclaimed international composer was left wheelchair bound after a Dudley hospital failed to diagnose his fractured spine.**

Andrew Downes was admitted to Russells Hall Hospital, Dudley, after falling over at home in October 2009.

The 61-year-old has composed music for orchestras across the world, TV and radio.

He was admitted to hospital complaining of severe back pain and was given morphine.

But the hospital diagnosed a urine infection and failed to send him for an X-ray which would have shown his fractured spine.

As a result of the delay he lost all feeling in both legs after developing a complete spinal cord injury, lawyers from Irwin Mitchell, representing Mr Downes, said.

He was then taken for scans which confirmed the fractures to his spine.

### Failing

Mr Downes, from Hagley, near Stourbridge, said: "To be walking around one day, and then unable to move little more than 24 hours later was beyond belief."

The hospital trust has accepted responsibility for failing to diagnose his injury and an undisclosed financial settlement has been made.

He went back to work just 10 months after the fall but said he is

devastated he cannot run around with his three young grandchildren.

The father-of-two will require a lifetime of care and help to live as independently as possible.

He had suffered from back pain and a fused spine for many years.

Paula Clark, chief executive of The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, admitted there were "lessons to be learned".

She said: "We would like to offer our sincere apologies to Mr Andrew Downes for failing to diagnose his injury."

"The care we provided fell below the standard he should have expected."

## Group set for visiting

A GROUP will visit sites of historical interest over the next three months and is inviting new members to come along.

Amblecote History Society meets at the church hall, in Vicarage Road, Amblecote, on the second Wednesday of every month.

But members will be out and about for the next three events in the programme - first staging a visit to the National Arboretum at Alrewas, in Lichfield on June 9. People who want to attend are advised to book early. Call 01384 395034 to reserve a place.

## Teacher taking off with double delight



Information technology teacher Peter Dabbs gets packing for his lucky breaks

TEACHER Peter Dabbs was happy enough when he heard he had won one luxury holiday - but was even more delighted when he found just a couple of weeks later he had landed a second lucky break.

The 50-year-old information technology teacher, of Kingswinford, was looking forward to enjoying his first prize - flights and four nights in a five-star hotel in Bermuda - with his wife, Michelle.

He won the prize in a competition run by a national newspaper by answering a simple question. Then he had a phone call telling him he had clinched yet another holiday - this time for five nights in a five-star hotel in Malta, including spa treatments - through entering a competition on social networking site Facebook.

All he had done on that occasion was to click that he "liked" the Maltese Tourist Board's Facebook page.

"I was surprised enough to win the first holiday - and doubly so when I won the second," said Mr Dabbs, who works at Kingsley College, Redditch.

## Airport bringing the war time back to life

THE PAST will be brought to life during a living history weekend in the Black Country.

Halfpenny Green Airport, in Bobbington, will host the nostalgic event on May 19 and 20.

The event is being held to raise funds for Help For Heroes. Hundreds of re-enactors will bring the Second World War years back to life, while there will be displays of military vehicles and uniforms on show.

The sounds of the 1940s will ring through the site with performances by live singers and bands including Lola L'amour, Marina Maie, The Forces Sweethearts and Paul Casper.

Admission for members of the public and re-enactors not part of a displaying group will be £6 adults, and £4 under 16s and seniors.

Entry for services veterans and children is free.

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## thechronicle

# Building firm is cleared to bring HQ to town site

A CONSTRUCTION firm has been given the go-ahead to move its base to Stourbridge despite objections from neighbours.

Kendrick Construction Group will relocate from Walsall to new headquarters in Hagley Road.

The move to the former Westhill Clinic site was welcomed last week by Dudley Council planning chiefs who approved the application. Household objections had objected – fearing the development would create noise and disturbance and claiming it is too close to existing properties in the area.

But development control committee chairman Councillor Colin Wilson said: "In my opinion this is a high quality design that fits in well with the surroundings."

"If this is anything to go by, I welcome Kendrick to Stourbridge – it is the town's gain and Walsall's loss."

Resident Nigel Joyce, speaking on behalf of 12 objectors, called the plans "unacceptable" and told the meeting: "This development pays little regard to adjacent residents. There could be noise and early morning starts in what is a quiet residential area."

He added people in Westhill Court were concerned their properties would be overlooked.

Bosses from the firm said around 38 staff would be transferred to the site full-time overseeing other employees.

The company, which dates back to 1880, employs around 100 people.

## Dive into swimming club

STOURBRIDGE Swimming Club is looking for new members.

Children aged six and over can be signed up for sessions with the club which trains at venues including Dudley and Stourbridge leisure centres.

Call head coach Stew Nicklin on 07834 689178 or get in contact through the club's website, which is [www.stourswim.co.uk](http://www.stourswim.co.uk) for more details.

## Pounding for pounds



Raising money for the Midlands Air Ambulance, organisers of the Pound the Bounce walk, Fran Cratchley, Henk Buzink, and Sue Humphries

HUNDREDS of walkers took a stroll through the Wyre Forest countryside for the Midlands Air Ambulance.

The annual event, called Pound the Bounce, saw more than 350 people stride out around the village of Rock near Stourport recently.

The walk was organised to help the charity mark its 21st anniversary.

One of the organisers Mr Henk Buzink said: "In view of the weather forecasts in the last few weeks it has been quite well attended. We are slightly up on numbers this year."

The charity needs to raise £6 million each year to keep its three air ambulances operational.

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Departures most weekends

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**FROM £109.95 (Saturday Night)**

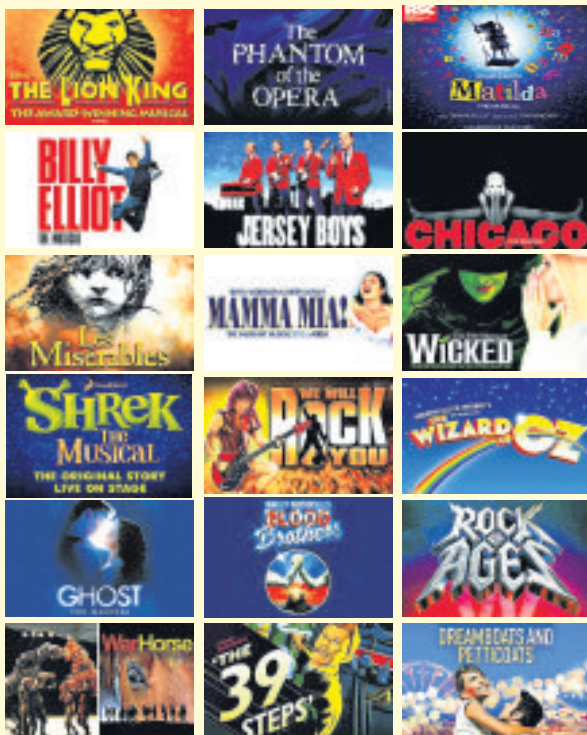
The self-drive break is for one evening staying either on the Friday night or Saturday night in a four-star hotel. You will see the evening performance: for Friday night you will have a top price ticket and for Saturday evening there is a choice of price bands. Stay extra nights for a reasonable supplement (subject to availability).

\* The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details. Single room supplements apply.

Arranged by Omega Holidays (ABTA V4782)

For a theatre brochure please call (01902) 319999 (Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm), email [starextra@shropshirestar.co.uk](mailto:starextra@shropshirestar.co.uk) (please include your name and address) or go to [shropshirestar.com/starextratour](http://shropshirestar.com/starextratour)

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# Nicole Kidman will star in film of debut novel

## Traditional skills on offer



Julie Tonkin will be passing on her know-how at the museum

VISITORS to the Black Country Living Museum will be able to hone their skills in making everything from rag rugs to faggots.

The spring heritage skills workshops are divided into the themes of arts and crafts, traditional food and drink, historical buildings and monuments and historical artefacts.

The first in the series started this week, and students interested in textiles will enjoy the historical

artefacts course "Understanding Historical Clothing" on May 22.

On June 21 Barbara Tyler will demonstrate the skills of rag rug making.

Then, on June 23, Julie Tonkin, a leading canal artist, will pass on her know-how to students, including spider web embroidery, crochet and making twisted pearl necklaces.

Booking is essential on 0121 520 8054.

**HOLLYWOOD** superstar Nicole Kidman will star in the new film adaptation of a Dudley author's debut novel. Before I Go To Sleep will go into production later this year.

Other stars including Cate Blanchett and Angelina Jolie were rumoured to be in the running for a part in the film, which is based on the best-selling book by Steve Watson, of Stourbridge. It will be produced by Ridley Scott and written by Rowan Joffe, whose previous successes include Brighton Rock and The American starring George Clooney. The makers will head to the Cannes Film Festival this week to start promoting the project.

Mr Watson started writing the book as a hobby while working as an audiology specialist and now admits he may never return to his old job.

The book shot to number one in the Sunday Times paperback chart after being chosen by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan for their Book Club.

The 39-year-old, who writes under the name SJ Watson, has won a host of awards including the Galaxy Best Crime/Thriller gong, beating Ian Rankin and Martina Cole. The novel tells the story of a woman who wakes up to find she does not recognise her life and she is married to a complete stranger.

The tale is inspired by amnesia cases Mr Watson encountered while working at St Thomas Hospital in London.

Mr Watson said: "I still can't quite believe what's happening."

## Flower festival at church

LADY COBHAM, of Hagley Hall, will officially open a flower festival at St Saviour's Church, Hagley, at 11am on June 2 to celebrate the jubilee. The festival, staged by Hagley Mothers' Union, will be open from 10.30am to 4pm and, on June 4 and 5, visitors can view it from 11am to 4pm. It also coincides with the centenaries of the union and scouting in Hagley.

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## thechronicle

# Personal data given to waste firm by mistake

PERSONAL details of neighbours who complained to the Environment Agency about a 40ft rubbish pile near their homes were mistakenly sent to the refuse firm ahead of a court case.

Names, addresses and telephone numbers were not removed from documents handed to Refuse Derived Fuel Ltd and its directors as required. Around 22 people who complained to the agency about the firm, based in Moor Street, Brierley Hill, have been affected by the incident.

Environment Agency officials said they had called each individual personally to apologise for the breach.

Brierley Hill councillor Rachel Harris said people would be "concerned" to hear of the incident. "I think that it is very regrettable and I do not want it to put people off coming forward to complain in the future," she added.

"The Environment Agency have declared a breach of the Data Protection Act."

RDF Ltd shreds and dries solid waste, turning the household rubbish and industrial refuse into fuel.

Environment Agency spokeswoman Jessica Campbell, said as part of the court process they served evidence to the firm. "Personal details of complainants should have been removed from the evidence before it was released, but unfortunately this did not happen," she said.

Solicitors acting for the agency had brought High Court proceedings against Refuse Derived Fuel Ltd, also known as RDF Ltd.

## Call to 'opt in' to net porn

A MIDLAND MP has called for greater protection for youngsters surfing the internet.

Mark Garnier, MP for Wyre Forest, took part in a cross-party Parliamentary inquiry into online child protection, which concluded Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and the Government need to do more to keep children safe online. A filter was recommended so people have to "opt in" to access adult material.

## Book launch success



Mayor of Dudley Councillor Michael Evans, and his consort, Sue Greenaway, at the launch of Stourbridge magician John Milner's new book

COPIES of Stourbridge magician John Milner's book based on his father's wartime love letters to his mother were snapped up at a launch.

Mayor of Dudley Councillor Michael Evans and his consort Sue Greenaway were among around 100 invited guests at the book launch, at Stourbridge British Legion, Envile Street.

Mr Milner, aged 63, of Brook

Street, spent 15 years compiling the book entitled *Live Respected Die Regretted*. It featured his late father Gerald Milner's letters to his wife, Eva.

The book, subtitled *Gerald Milner's War Letters to Eva from a Desert Rat*, sets the letters against a backdrop of the history of the conflict in North Africa and later Italy and first-hand accounts of life as a soldier.

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Organised by Omega Holidays (ABTA V4782)

#### Great Gardens of Sussex and Kent FROM £279\*

Four days departing July 6

Sussex and Kent are home to some of the finest gardens in the country and give a wonderful insight into centuries of gardening trends. Includes entrance to Great Dixter House and gardens and Nymans. Visits to Wakehurst Place, Sissinghurst Castle Garden, Borde Hill Garden and Sheffield Park and garden.

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

#### Kents Castles and Gardens FROM £289\*

Four days departing August 17

Kent is a place where heritage meets horticulture and this tour takes in some of the highlights, from romantic gardens to the 'loveliest castle in the world'. Includes entrances to Scotney, Haver and Leeds castles, Penshurst Palace and visits to 'The World Garden of Plants' at Lullingstone Castle and Sissinghurst Castle garden.

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

#### Lindisfarne and the Alnwick Garden FROM £159<sup>95\*</sup>

Three days departing September 7

A visit to the truly magical Alnwick Garden, one of the most talked about and remarkable garden transformations of recent times, and Holy Island, or Lindisfarne as it's often known, cradle of English Christianity, are just two of the highlights of this weekend. Includes entrance to Alnwick garden and visits to Durham, Bamburgh and Lindisfarne.

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

\*Single room supplements apply

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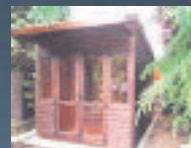
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## thechronicle

## Festival gets a Push from French star

Push, Birmingham Hippodrome  
ACCLAIMED French ballerina Sylvie Guillem's first performance at Birmingham Hippodrome was a highlight of this year's international dance festival in the city.

The elegant 48-year-old Parisian, first declared a star by Rudolf Nureyev 30 years ago, now brings her grace and vitality to contemporary dance, collaborating with dancer and choreographer Russell Maliphant.

## Shadows

In two thrilling solos she showcased her skills. Solo was danced to flamenco guitar and was all pride and passion. Two, danced to electronic music, began slowly as her body morphed and twisted into flailing life, her limbs a blur in this martial arts inspired piece.

Maliphant impressed in his own solo, Shift, dancing with his shadows and then both dancers combined for the award-winning Push.

Ex-gymnast Guillem defied gravity as she curled and slithered around Maliphant's body. The pair do Push their art form to another level.

Leon Burakowski

## Connie is in Town

THE Sound of Music star Connie Fisher, winner of BBC TV's How Do You Solve A Problem Like Maria?, returns to Birmingham Hippodrome in the Leonard Bernstein's Wonderful Town from May 22 to 26.

# Show to dance you back to the sounds of the 60s

FROM the team that brought the huge success is Dreamboats and Petticoats, Save The Last Dance For Me will take you back through the music and magic of the early 60s, at the Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.

## Such strings of success

CBSO, Symphony Hall.  
IT was a battle of virtuoso violinists at Symphony Hall, and Birmingham's home-grown Laurence Jackson lost nothing in comparison with international solo superstar James Ehnes.

Big-name Canadian guest Ehnes was technically dazzling, as expected, with his venerable 1715 Stradivarius in Prokofiev's Violin Concerto No 1, while never quite tugging the heart-strings.

By contrast, Jackson, leader of the CBSO, had the audience in the palm of his hand as his Vuillaume violin from 1850 delighted everyone during Rimsky-Korsakov's emotional roller-coaster, Scheherazade.

It included a triumphant evening for the orchestra under livewire Japanese conductor Kazuki Yamada.

John McLaren

Written by Laurence Marks and Maurice Gran (Goodnight, Sweetheart, Birds of a Feather, Shine on Harvey Moon), it features the music of Doc Pomus and Mort Shuman.

With authentic recreation of the sound of Rock 'n' Roll, this nostalgic, feel-good journey will transport you back to music's golden era as we follow two teenage sisters through the summer of '63.

For the first time without their parents, the siblings embark on a seaside holiday.

Full of freedom and high spirits they meet a handsome young American who invites them to a dance at the local U.S. Air Force base.

But young love and holiday romance is never as simple as it sounds.

The show features classic hits Pomus and Shuman including A Teenager In Love and, of course, Save The Last Dance For Me.

It runs from May 28 to June 2 with matinees on Wednesday and Saturday.

Tickets range from £13.50 to £31.50 with concessions available.



Hannah Frederick and AJ Dean in the nostalgic musical Save The Last Dance For Me

## Grand audience love all that razzle dazzle

Chicago, Wolverhampton Grand

THIS was razzle dazzle on a Grand scale and the audience loved it.

After the cast left the stage the packed theatre carried on clapping along as the band played its sassy tunes. This musical tells of murder and corruption and it certainly would be a crime to miss it.

If you are a fan of the TV soaps you will feel quite at home. Look through the cast list and you will recognise quite a few names. Set in the roaring 1920s, it features nightclub singer Roxie Hart (Ali Bastian: Hollyoaks, The Bill) who shoots her lover and along with Cell Block rival, double-murderess Velma Kelly (Tupelo Dorgu: Coronation Street), they fight to keep from death row with the help of prison matron, Mama Morton (played that night by Genevieve Nicole, understudy for Bernie Nolan) and smooth-talking lawyer, Billy Flynn (Stefan Booth: EastEnders).

This just goes to prove that these 'soap' performers are not short on talent both in the singing and dancing departments, in fact some of the dance routines left the audience feeling breathless. Chicago is at the Grand to Saturday.

Sue Attwater

## Young soul singer makes it sound so very easy

Michael Kiwanuka, Wulfrun Hall

CONSIDERING he is a new kid on the block, singer-songwriter Michael Kiwanuka looks as at ease on stage as any veteran of the folk-acoustic circuit.

His smooth soulful voice, easy manner and versatile use of music styles gives him the look of someone who has been doing this most of his life.

Kiwanuka evokes an early Motown sound in songs such as Tell Me a Tale, Rest and I'll Get Along from his new album Home Again. He slips easily into tunes with a reggae flavour and even adds country with Always Waiting.

Kiwanuka is an excellent musician with a chameleon voice that has the ability to move between genres while

keeping his distinctive soulfulness. He swaps guitars to easily move from acoustic to a jazz funk then to a heavier beat reminiscent of Santana.

He is at his best singing with just his acoustic guitar, such as Home Again, where he displays a quality bringing to mind the great Ray Charles.

Danny Farragher

## Essential Ireland

Essence of Ireland

Wolverhampton Grand  
ESSENCE of Ireland may not have the scale of its bigger brother River Dance but this potted history of Ireland told through song, music and dance doesn't lack enthusiasm or energy.

Immigration, separation and Ireland were linked through love letters narrated through the storytelling, singing and playing of frontman Ged Graham.

He weaved in and out of the superb dance routines led by Ross Logan and Lianne Stubbs whose precision and skills, mixed with delicate ballet like moves, were mesmerising.

They were backed by an athletic troupe who used every inch of the stage while radiating enthusiasm. This sucked in the audience to join in clapping and singing familiar favourites including Tell Me Ma, Wild Rover, Danny Boy and many more.

Danny Farragher

## Double Blur

BRITPOP stars Blur have two warm up gigs at Wolverhampton Civic Hall on August 5 and 6 before their big reunion gig in Hyde Park.

Tickets are £35 each (plus £3.50 booking fee) and available from 9am tomorrow (Friday) via the [www.eventim.co.uk](http://www.eventim.co.uk) website.

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## Choice

## BBC1

## BBC2

## ITV1

## Channel 4

## Channel 5

## Digital



### OFF BY HEART: SHAKESPEARE

BBC2, 9pm

Following on from the 2009 poetry recital contest Off by Heart comes this national project aimed at getting schoolchildren engaged with the words of the Bard. The documentary follows the regional heats and workshops as the organisers, working with the Shakespeare Schools Festival, test the young competitors' memory, performance and engagement with the language as they perform soliloquies from Romeo and Juliet, Henry V and Hamlet. The nine best will take part in the final in Stratford-upon-Avon, hosted by Jeremy Paxman, as part of the World Shakespeare Festival.

**6.00** Breakfast. **9.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **10.30** The Diamond Jubilee: Armed Forces Tribute. **12.40** BBC News: Regional News: Weather. **12.50** British Olympic Dreams. **1.20** Triathlon. **2.50** Gymnastics. **4.20** Regional Programmes. **4.50** Pointless Celebrities. **5.40** BBC News: Regional News: Weather.

**6.00** My Family. Susan is accused of sexual harassment at work. (R)

**6.30** The Voice UK. Jessie and Danny's contestants take the stage again, and as last week, each team will face a double elimination, leaving the mentors with two acts to take through to the semi-final.

**8.00** The National Lottery: In It to Win It. Quiz show, including the all-important numbers.

**8.50** Casualty. Tom is reunited with troubled teenager Alicia Dans.

**9.40** Michael McIntyre's Comedy Roadshow. With John Bishop, Justin Moorhouse, Miles Jupp and Terry Alderton. (R)

**10.10** BBC News: Weather.

**10.30** Kevin Bridges - The Story So Far. A performance from Glasgow's SECC Arena filmed in 2010; National Lottery Update.

**11.30** The Football League Show. Highlights of the Championship play-off final at Wembley Stadium.

**12.15** Film: Kevin and Perry Go Large. (2000) Comedy, starring Harry Enfield and Kathy Burke. **1.30** Weatherview. **1.35** BBC News.

**6.00** CBeebies. **7.00** CBBC. **12.15** Great British Menu. (R) **12.45** Film: Macbeth. (1948) Shakespeare's tragedy, directed by and starring Orson Welles. **2.30** Film: Twelfth Night. (1996) Shakespeare's comedy, starring Imogen Stubbs. **4.40** Flog It! **5.40** Don't Panic! The Dad's Army Story. (R)

**6.30** Dad's Army. Mainwaring tackles a terrorist. (R)

**7.00** You Have Been Watching - David Croft. Tribute to the TV comedy writer, who died in 2011, known for his work on the sitcoms Dad's Army, Allo! Allo!, Are You Being Served?, It Ain't Half Hot Mum and Hi-de-Hi!. Narrated by Dilly Barlow. (R)

**8.00** Cutty Sark: National Treasure Reopened. Updated version of the documentary first broadcast in February, following the restoration of the renowned clipper ship after she was ravaged by fire in May 2007.

**9.00** Off by Heart Shakespeare. Documentary following a national competition in which schoolchildren compete to recite the words of Shakespeare in a test of memory, performance and engagement with the language.

**10.20** Qi XL. Stephen Fry hosts.

**11.05** FILM: Hamlet 2. (2008) Premiere. Comedy, starring Steve Coogan.

**12.30** Film: A Cock and Bull Story. (2006) Comedy, starring Steve Coogan and Rob Brydon. **2.00** Close.

**6.00** CITV: Mini CITV. **7.25** CITV. **8.25** Saturday Cookbook. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **11.20** The Real Housewives of New York City. **12.20** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **1.20** The Planet's Funniest Animals. Video clips featuring troublesome pets and crazy wild animals. (R) **1.45** ITV News: Weather. **1.50** Film: Agatha Christie's Murder with Mirrors. (1985) Mystery, starring Helen Hayes and Bette Davis. **3.40** Film: From Russia with Love. (1963) James Bond thriller, starring Sean Connery. **5.45** Regional News: Weather.

**6.00** ITV News: Weather.

**6.15** Keith Lemon's LemonAid. Girl band the Saturdays put the host and an audience member through their paces in a performance, and X Factor judge Louis Walsh is this week's celebrity helper. Last in the series.

**7.00** Live UEFA Champions League Final. Bayern Munich v Chelsea (Kick-off 7.45pm). Coverage of the showpiece match at the Allianz Arena in Munich, where European club football's premier competition concludes.

**10.25** ITV News: Weather.

**10.40** UEFA Champions League Highlights. Bayern Munich v Chelsea.

**11.40** FILM: Bonnie and Clyde. (1967) Fact-based gangster drama, starring Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway.

**1.35** The Store; ITV News Headlines. **3.40** In Plain Sight. (R) **4.25** ITV News: Weather. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

**6.15** The Hoobs. (R) **6.40** British F3. **7.05** FILM: Superbike World Championship 2012. (R) **7.30** The Grid. **7.55** The Morning Line. **8.55** The TV Book Club. **9.25** T4: Shooting Cheryl. **10.00** T4: Made in Chelsea. **11.05** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.35** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.10** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **12.45** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **1.20** Road to London 2012: That Paralympic Show. **1.55** Channel 4 Racing. **3.55** Deal or No Deal. **4.55** Come Dine with Me: Costa del Sol Special. (R) **5.50** Channel 4 News.

**6.00** 4thought.tv. Members of the public reflect on whether there is a limit to forgiveness.

**6.05** FILM: Titanic. (1997) A society girl falls in love with a penniless artist during the liner's ill-fated voyage. Romantic drama, starring Kate Winslet and Leonardo DiCaprio.

**9.45** FILM: Rush Hour 3. (2007) An assassination attempt sets the mismatched detectives off on a mission to take on Triad gangs in Paris. Action comedy sequel, starring Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker.

**11.30** Rude Tube. Alex Zane counts down through some of the most popular prank videos found online, including eye-watering stunts and comedy characters. (R)

**12.35** Stand Up for the Week. (R) **1.20** Film: Bad News Bears. (2005) Comedy remake, starring Billy Bob Thornton. **3.05** Milton Jones's House of Rooms. (R) **3.30** Halo Panda. (R) **4.50** St Elsewhere. (R) **4.50** Smallville. (R) **5.30** Countdown. (R)

**6.00** Milkshake! **10.00** Inside Hollywood. **10.10** The Gadgets Show: World Tour. (R) **11.10** Emergency Bikers. (R) **12.10** Robson's Extreme Fishing Challenge. (R) **1.10** Film: Police Academy 2: Their First Assignment. (1985) Comedy sequel, starring Steve Guttenberg. **2.55** Film: The Witches. (1990) Children's fantasy, starring Anjelica Huston. **4.45** Film: Dr Dolittle 2. (2001)

**6.30** Ultimate Police Interceptors.

**6.55** 5 News Weekend.

**7.00** Cricket on 5. England v West Indies. Mark Nicholas presents action from the third day of the First Test at Lord's, as the three-match series continued.

**7.55** NCIS. The agents undergo psychological evaluations. (R)

**8.50** CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. A man is found crushed to death in a hotel room. (R)

**9.40** CSI: NY. Jo and Lindsay investigate the murder of a successful Brooklyn-born businessman, and discover he insisted on maintaining connections with the housing project where he was raised.

**10.40** Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. A man is found badly beaten in a strip club's car park.

**11.35** Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. Detectives try to solve the murder of a paediatrician.

**12.35** SuperCasino. **4.00** Great Artists. (R) **4.50** Rough Guide to Cities. (R) **5.00** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

**ITV2**  
**4.45** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records  
**5.15** Britain's Got More Talent: All Singing All Dancing  
**6.15** Britain's Got More Talent: All Stars  
**7.15** Film: Ice Age: The Meltdown (2006)  
**9.00** Film: Forgetting Sarah Marshall (2008)  
**11.15** Keith Lemon's LemonAid

**ITV3**  
**3.45** Sherlock Holmes: The Eligible Bachelor  
**5.55** Agatha Christie's Marple  
**8.00** Doc Martin  
**9.00** Lewis  
**11.00** Sherlock Holmes: The Eligible Bachelor

**ITV4**  
**11.00** Live Indian Premier League Cricket. Kings XI Punjab v Delhi DareDevils and Pune Warriors v Kolkata Knight Riders.  
**8.00** The Sweeney  
**9.00** Film: The Game (1997) Thriller, starring Michael Douglas.  
**11.35** Film: Eden Lake (2008)

**BBC THREE**  
**7.00** Doctor Who  
**7.45** Doctor Who Confidential  
**8.00** Adele Live at the Royal Albert Hall  
**9.00** Live at the Apollo  
**9.45** Russell Howard's Good News Extra  
**10.30** Family Guy Best Freakin' Episodes

**BBC FOUR**  
**7.00** South Pacific  
**8.00** Lost Kingdoms of Africa. The history of South Africa's Zulu kingdom.  
**9.00** The Bridge  
**11.00** Tales of Television Centre

**E4**  
**3.05** Made in Chelsea  
**4.10** Charlie's Angels  
**5.05** How I Met Your Mother  
**6.00** The Big Bang Theory  
**7.30** Rules of Engagement  
**8.00** How I Met Your Mother  
**8.30** Happy Endings  
**9.00** Film: Meet the Spartans (2008)  
**9.45** Rude Tube  
**11.50** The Big Bang Theory

**FILM4**  
**2.50** The Truman Show (1998)  
**4.45** Star Trek: Insurrection (1998)  
**6.50** Amelia (2009)  
**9.00** A Time to Kill (1996) Courtroom drama, with Samuel L. Jackson and Matthew McConaughey.  
**11.50** Confessions (2010)

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## Choice

## BBC1

## BBC2

## ITV1

## Channel 4

## Channel 5

## Digital



### CHANNEL 4'S COMEDY GALA

Channel 4, 9pm

For any true aficionado of the art of stand-up, this comedy extravaganza has become a high-point on the calendar, despite this being only its third year now. The must-see benefit gig-to-end-all-benefit gigs once again comes from the O2 in London, with all the proceeds going to Great Ormond Street Hospital. A look at the bill will tease your funny-bone with just a smidgen of apprehension for a full-on assault: confirmed acts include such luminaries as Lee Evans, Michael McIntyre and Jo Brand. For fans of up-and-coming acts, there's Paul Chowdhury and Andi Osho plus a music performance by Jessie J.

**6.00** Breakfast. **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Country Tracks: (R) Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.00** Sunday Politics. **1.00** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.30** Penguin Island. (R) **2.00** Tiger - Spy in the Jungle. (R) **3.00** The Queen's Palaces. (R) **4.00** Liffeline. **4.10** Points of View. **4.25** Songs of Praise. **5.00** Chelsea Flower Show 2012.

**6.00** BBC News: Regional News: Weather. **6.25** Countryfile. Matt Baker, Ellie Harrison and John Craven explore Dumfries and Galloway. Including Weather for the Week Ahead. **7.25** The Voice UK Results. Jessie J and Danny O'Donoghue lose two more acts each.

**8.00** Planet Earth Live. Richard Hammond and Julia Bradbury present further wildlife updates, including the progress of Kenyan lion cub Moja and his mum, and bear cubs Herbie and Fern in Minnesota.

**9.00** Death in Paradise. Richard investigates the murder of a voodoo priestess. (R)

**10.00** BBC News: Regional News: Weather. **10.25** Have I Got a Bit More News for You. Satirical quiz.

**11.10** FILM: Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy. (2004) Newsroom comedy, starring Will Ferrell.

**12.40** Weatherview. **12.45** Sign Zone: Ewan McGregor: Cold Chain Mission. (R) **1.45** Holby City. (R) **2.45** Witness to Auschwitz. (R) **3.15** Antiques Road Trip. (R) **4.00** BBC News.

**6.00** CBeebies. **7.00** CBBC. **10.00** Athletics: Great Manchester Run. Live coverage of the 10km race. **12.30** Live MotoGP. The French Grand Prix (Start-time 1.00pm). **2.00** Boxing. **3.30** Athletics: Great Manchester City Games. Live coverage from the city centre. **5.00** Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. (R) **5.45** Flog It! (R)

**6.10** FILM: Deep Impact. (1998) A reporter investigating a presidential misdemeanour stumbles on evidence that a comet is on a collision course with Earth. Sci-fi drama, starring Robert Duvall, Tea Leoni and Morgan Freeman.

**8.00** Indian Ocean with Simon Reeve. Simon journeys from Oman to the Maldives, where the tropical coral islands are being damaged by bleaching and one entire island has been turned into a stinking, toxic landfill dump.

**9.00** Coast. The lifestyles and history of some of the most extreme locations in Britain, including the Isles of Scilly, Branscombe Cliff, Devon, and St David's Head, Pembrokeshire.

**10.00** FILM: Man on Wire. (2008) Documentary about a tightrope walk between the World Trade Centre towers.

**11.30** Episodes. Matt buys Sean a sports car. (R)

**12.00** Grandma's House. (R) **12.30** Film: Sugar. (2008) Sporting drama, starring Algenis Perez Soto. **2.15** BBC News. **4.00** Close.

**6.00** CITV: Mini CITV. **7.25** CITV. **8.25** Dinner Date. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Ade in Britain. (R) **10.30** May the Best House Win. (R) **11.30** Long Lost Family. (R) **12.30** ITV News: Weather. **12.35** Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) **1.35** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **2.40** Film: Columbo: Now You See Him. (1976) Detective drama, starring Peter Falk. **4.30** The Hungry Sailors. (R) **5.30** You've Been Framed! (R)

**6.00** Harry Hill's TV Burp. Classic clips and skits from previous series, featuring a fight between Mr Blobby and Phil Mitchell, and Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall trying his hand at intensive chicken farming. (R)

**6.25** Regional News: Weather. **6.40** ITV News: Weather. **7.00** Celebrity Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?

Couples Special. Contestants include Eamonn Holmes and Hugh Langford, plus Paddy McGuinness and his wife.

**8.00** Vera. The ugly truth about a murder victim's past begins to emerge when the body of a drug dealer washes up on a beach, with Vera coping with revelations of her own. Last in the series.

**10.00** ITV News at Ten; Weather. **10.15** FILM: 10,000 BC. (2008) Prehistoric fantasy adventure, starring Steven Strait.

**12.05** The Store: ITV News Headlines. **2.10** River Monsters. (R) **3.00** Motorsport UK. **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

**6.15** The Hoobs. (R) **6.40** The Hoobs. (R) **7.05** Freesports on 4. **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Frasier. (R) **10.00** Sunday Brunch. **12.15** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.45** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.15** The Simpsons. (R) **1.45** The Simpsons. (R) **2.20** Film: Bride and Prejudice. (2004) Romantic Bollywood-style comedy, starring Aishwarya Rai and Martin Henderson. **4.30** Film: Bandslam. (2009) Premiere. Musical, starring Gaelan Connell.

**6.30** Channel 4 News. **7.00** 4thought.tv. A short discussion about forgiveness.

**7.05** Four Rooms. Items on sale include Winston Churchill's gold dentures. Last in the series.

**8.00** Celebrity Deal or No Deal. Katie Price takes part in the game show, trying to guess the value of the mystery boxes and win up to £250,000 for her chosen charity.

**9.00** Channel 4's Comedy Gala. Jessie J opens the third annual charity event in aid of Great Ormond Street Hospital, with the line-up also featuring Lee Evans, Michael McIntyre, Jonathan Ross and Keith Lemon.

**11.35** The Inbetweeners. The friends go clubbing in London. (R)

**12.10** The Inbetweeners. (R) **12.40** Film: Do Dooni Chaar. (2010) Premiere. Comedy drama, starring Rishi Kapoor. **2.35** Hollyoaks. (R) **4.35** Deal or No Deal. (R) **5.30** Countdown. (R)

**6.00** Milkshake! Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fifi and the Flowerrots. (R) **6.25** City of Friends. (R) **6.40** Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs. (R) **6.50** Castle Farm. (R) **6.55** Abby's Flying Fairy School. **7.05** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.15** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.25** Family! (R) **7.35** Noddy in Toyland. (R) **7.45** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.05** Mio Mao. (R) **8.10** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.25** Funky Town. (R) **8.30** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.45** Rupert Bear. (R) **8.55** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.10** The Mr Men Show. (R) **9.25** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **9.40** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **10.00** Animal Rescue Squad. (R) **10.20** Grey's Anatomy. (R) **11.15** The Restaurant Inspector. (R) **12.15** Film: Murder at the Gallop. (1963) **1.55** Film: Free Willy 2: The Adventure Home. (1995) Family adventure, starring Jason James Richter. **3.45** Film: Tinker Bell and the Great Fairy Rescue. (2010) Animated fantasy, with the voice of Mae Whitman. **5.05** Film: Hercules. (1997) Disney animated adventure, with the voice of Tate Donovan.

**6.55** 5 News Weekend. **7.00** Cricket on 5. **8.00** Once Upon a Time. **9.00** Norway Massacre: The Survivors.

**10.00** FILM: Perfect Stranger. (2007) Suspense thriller, starring Halle Berry and Bruce Willis.

**12.10** The Walking Dead. (R) **1.30** SuperCasino. **4.00** The FBI Files. (R) **4.50** Rough Guide to Eco Escapes. (R) **5.00** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

**ITV2**  
**4.35** Film: Free Willy (1993) **6.55** Film: Happy Feet (2006) **9.00** Benidorm **10.00** The Only Way Is Essex **10.45** The Exclusives **11.45** Film: The World Is Not Enough (1999)

**ITV3**  
**2.40** The Railway Children **4.40** Wycliffe **5.45** Agatha Christie's Poirot **8.00** Film: Steptoe and Son Ride Again (1973) **10.00** Taggart. The team is drawn into the world of a strict religious sect. Last in the series. **11.00** Cracker

**ITV4**  
**11.00** Live Indian Premier League Cricket. Deccan Chargers v Royal Challengers Bangalore and Rajasthan Royals v Mumbai Indians. **8.00** Film: The Magnificent Seven Rides! (1972) **10.00** Film: A Dangerous Man (2010) **11.55** Film: Coogan's Bluff (1968)

**BBC THREE**  
**7.00** World's Craziest Fools **7.30** England's Worst Ever Football Team **9.00** Family Guy Best Freakin' Top Two **10.00** Family Guy **10.40** American Dad! **11.30** Snog, Marry, Avoid?

**BBC FOUR**  
**7.00** Tales of Television Centre **8.30** Hancock **9.00** Film: Mongol: The Rise to Power of Genghis Khan. (2008) Historical drama, starring Tadanobu Asano. **11.00** Timewatch: The Secret History of Genghis Khan **11.50** Barry Manilow at the BBC

**E4**  
**3.55** Glee **4.50** 90210 **5.45** The Big Bang Theory **6.40** Film: Take the Lead (2006) **9.00** Desperate Housewives **11.00** 2 Broke Girls **11.25** Made in Chelsea

**FILM4**  
**1.55** CutThroat Island (1995) **5.20** Nacho Libre (2006) **7.05** Monster-in-Law. (2005) Romantic comedy, starring Jennifer Lopez and Jane Fonda. **9.05** Men in Black. (1997) Sci-fi comedy, starring Will Smith and Tommy Lee Jones. **10.55** The Escapist. (2008) British jail-break thriller, starring Brian Cox.

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## Monday

**BBC1** 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Fake Britain. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 11.45 Bargain Hunt. (R) 12.30 Chelsea Flower Show 2012. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. (R) 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 Chelsea Flower Show 2012; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 EastEnders. 8.30 Eurovision's Dirty Secret - Panorama. 9.00 Chatsworth. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 A Question of Sport. 11.05 Sporting Heroes: After the Final Whistle. (R) 11.55 The Graham Norton Show. (R) 12.45 Weatherview. 12.50 Sign Zone: Rowing the Arctic. (R) 1.50 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 2.35 Great British Railway Journeys. (R) 3.05 Great British Menu. (R) 3.35 BBC News.

**BBC2** 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 BBC World News. 12.00 Daily Politics. 1.00 Hands on Nature. (R) 1.30 Instant Restaurant. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. (R) 3.00 Heir Hunters. (R) 3.45 Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) 4.30 Flog It! (R) 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. (R) 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Top of the Pops 2 - Stripped. 7.30 Great British Menu. 8.00 Chelsea Flower Show 2012. 9.00 The Fall of Singapore: The Great Betrayal. 10.00 Sounds of the 70s 2 Rock - The Boys Are Back in Town. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 The Lost World of the Seventies. (R) 12.20 BBC News. 4.00 BBC Learning Zone.

**ITV1** 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Midsomer Murders. (R) 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 Ten. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 56 Up. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: Knocked Up. (2007) Romantic comedy, starring Seth Rogen and Katherine Heigl. 12.55 Jackpot247; ITV News Headlines. 3.00 Champions League Weekly. 3.25 ITV Nightscreen. 4.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 5.30 ITV Morning News.

**Channel 4** 6.15 The Hoobs. (R) 6.40 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Freshly Squeezed. 7.35 According to Jim. (R) 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Undercover Boss Australia. (R) 10.00 Location, Location, Location. (R) 11.00 The Renovation Game. 12.00 Channel 4 News Midday Summary. 12.05 SuperScrimpers: Waste Not Want Not. (R) 1.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 Channel 4 Presents. 8.00 Beating the Recession - Cash vs Cards: Channel 4 Dispatches. 8.30 Gok Gok Chinese. 9.00 The Secret Millionaire. 9.00 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. 11.05 8 Out of 10 Cats Uncut. 11.55 4thought.v. 12.00 Random Acts. (R) 12.05 The Hoarder Next Door. (R) 1.05 Film: Khayal Gatha. (1989) 2.50 Film: Faintheart. (2008) 4.15 Weather to Gloriously. (R) 4.20 Veronique. (R) 4.25 The Fishmonger. (R) 4.30 Smallville. (R) 5.15 Deal or No Deal. (R)

**Channel 5** 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Highland Emergency. (R) 12.45 Chinese Food Made Simple. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 Law & Order. (R) 3.15 Film: Murder 101: College Can Be Murder. (2007) Murder mystery, starring Dick Van Dyke. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 6.30. 7.00 Dirty Great Machines. (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 War Hero in My Family. 5 News at 9. 9.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. Catherine suspects Cereus has hired a team of assassins. 10.00 CSI: NY. (R) 10.55 CSI: NY. (R) 11.55 CSI: Miami. (R) 12.50 SuperCasino. 3.55 House Doctor. (R) 4.20 Nick's Quest. (R)

## Tuesday

**BBC1** 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Fake Britain. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 11.45 Bargain Hunt. (R) 12.30 Chelsea Flower Show 2012. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 Hollyby City. 9.00 Silk. 10.00 The Apprentice. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 The Matt Lucas Awards. 11.10 Film: Ghost Town. (2008) Comedy, starring Ricky Gervais. 12.50 Weatherview. 12.55 Sign Zone: The Apprentice. (R) 1.55 Horizon. (R) 2.55 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 3.40 Great British Railway Journeys. (R) 4.10 Great British Menu. (R) 4.40 BBC News.

**BBC2** 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 BBC World News. 12.00 Daily Politics. 1.00 Hands on Nature. (R) 1.30 Instant Restaurant. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. (R) 3.00 Heir Hunters. (R) 3.45 Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) 4.30 Flog It! (R) 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. (R) 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 TOTP2. 7.30 Great British Menu. 8.00 Chelsea Flower Show 2012. 9.00 Great Britain Street. 10.00 Later Live - with Joels Holland. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 The Great Euro Crash with Robert Peston. (R) 12.20 BBC News. 4.00 BBC Learning Zone.

**ITV1** 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Midsomer Murders. (R) 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Trash to Treasure. 8.00 Martin Clunes - Horsepower. (R) 9.00 Dirty Britain. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Celebrity Juice. 11.20 Nature's Fury: Fire Storm. (R) 12.15 Jackpot247; ITV News Headlines. 3.00 Loose Women. (R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

**Channel 4** 6.10 Sali Mali. (R) 6.15 The Hoobs. (R) 6.40 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Freshly Squeezed. 7.35 According to Jim. (R) 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Undercover Boss Australia. (R) 10.00 Location, Location, Location. (R) 11.00 The Renovation Game. 12.00 Channel 4 News Midday Summary. 12.05 SuperScrimpers: Waste Not Want Not. (R) 1.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 Channel 4 Presents. 8.00 Embarrassing Bodies: Live from the Clinic. 9.00 Hidden Talent. 10.00 My Big Fat Fatish. 11.05 Alan Carr: Chatty Men. (R) 12.05 4thought.v. 12.10 Random Acts. (R) 12.15 Poker. 12.00 KOTV Boxing Weekly. 1.45 Sailing: America's Cup Uncovered. 2.15 The Grid. (R) 2.40 British Games. (R) 5.00 Brief Encounters of the Sporting Mind: Golf. (R) 4.05 Road to London 2012: Paralympics Extra. The British wheelchair rugby team prepares for the Games. (R) 5.00 Brief Encounters of the Sporting Mind: Ma Bar. (R) 5.15 Deal or No Deal. (R)

**Channel 5** 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Highland Emergency. (R) 12.45 Chinese Food Made Simple. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 Law & Order. (R) 3.15 Film: Murder 101: College Can Be Murder. (2007) Murder mystery, starring Dick Van Dyke. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 6.30. 7.00 Dirty Great Machines. (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 War Hero in My Family. 5 News at 9. 9.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. Catherine suspects Cereus has hired a team of assassins. 10.00 CSI: NY. (R) 10.55 CSI: NY. (R) 11.55 CSI: Miami. (R) 12.50 SuperCasino. 3.55 House Doctor. (R) 4.20 Nick's Quest. (R)

## Wednesday

**BBC1** 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Fake Britain. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 11.45 Bargain Hunt. (R) 12.30 Chelsea Flower Show 2012. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. (R) 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 Chelsea Flower Show 2012; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 DIY SOS: The Big Build. 9.00 The Apprentice. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 The National Lottery Wednesday Night Draws. 10.45 Film: Surrogates. (2009) Premiere. Sci-fi thriller, starring Bruce Willis; National Lottery Update. 12.10 Weatherview. 12.15 Sign Zone: See Hear. (R) 12.45 The 70s. (R) 1.45 Great Ormond Street. (R) 2.45 Chaplains: Angels of Mercy. (R) 3.15 Postcode Lottery. (R) 4.00 Great British Menu. (R) 4.30 BBC News.

**BBC2** 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 BBC World News. 12.00 Daily Politics. 1.00 Hands on Nature. (R) 1.30 Instant Restaurant. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. (R) 3.00 Heir Hunters. (R) 3.45 Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) 4.30 Flog It! (R) 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. (R) 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 TOTP2. 7.30 Great British Menu. 8.00 Chelsea Flower Show 2012. 9.00 Hitler's Children. 10.00 The Apprentice: You're Fired. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 The Great Euro Crash with Robert Peston. (R) 12.20 BBC News. 4.00 BBC Learning Zone.

**ITV1** 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Midsomer Murders. (R) 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 The Unforgettable Dudley Moore. 8.00 Lewis. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Soccer Aid 2012. 11.05 The Unforgettable Hattie Jacques. (R) 11.35 Total Emergency. (R) 12.35 Jackpot247; ITV News Headlines. 3.00 Loose Women. (R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV News.

**Channel 4** 6.40 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Freshly Squeezed. 7.35 According to Jim. (R) 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Undercover Boss Australia. (R) 10.00 Location, Location, Location. (R) 11.00 The Renovation Game. 12.00 Channel 4 News Midday Summary. 12.05 SuperScrimpers: Waste Not Want Not. (R) 1.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 Channel 4 Presents. 8.00 Secret Eaters. 9.00 24 Hours in A&E. 10.00 The Killing. 10.55 2 Broke Girls. 11.25 Desperate Housewives. 12.25 4thought.v. 12.30 Random Acts. (R) 12.35 Paralympic World Cup Highlights. 1.35 Music on 4: Spotlight. 1.50 Music on 4: Dot Rotten: Intro. 2.05 Music on 4: 4Play: Gae Coombes. 2.15 Music on 4: 4Play: The Heartbreaks. 2.25 Music on 4: Mercury Prize Selections. (R) 2.40 Music on 4: Launched at Red Bull Studios. (R) 2.50 What's Fufu? (R) 2.55 St Elsewhere. (R) 3.45 Smallville. (R) 4.25 The Astronomer's Sun. (R) 4.30 Deal or No Deal. (R) 5.25 Countdown. (R)

**Channel 5** 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Highland Emergency. (R) 12.45 Chinese Food Made Simple. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 Law & Order. (R) 3.15 Film: Abducted. (2007) 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 6.30. 7.00 Dirty Great Machines. (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 War Hero in My Family. 5 News at 9. 9.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. Catherine suspects Cereus has hired a team of assassins. 10.00 CSI: NY. (R) 10.55 CSI: NY. (R) 11.55 CSI: Miami. (R) 12.50 SuperCasino. 3.55 House Doctor. (R) 4.25 Divine Designs. (R)

## Thursday

**BBC1** 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Fake Britain. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 11.45 Bargain Hunt. (R) 12.30 Chelsea Flower Show 2012. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 Planet Earth. 9.00 National Treasures. 10.00 Jubilee Special. 10.30 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Question Time. 11.35 This Week. 12.20 Holiday Weatherview. 12.25 Sign Zone: Eurovision's Dirty Secret - Panorama. (R) 12.55 Countryfile. (R) 1.55 Antiques Roadshow. (R) 2.55 Ivory Wars: Out of Africa. (R) 3.55 Great British Menu. (R) 4.25 BBC News.

**BBC2** 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 BBC World News. 12.00 Daily Politics. 1.00 Hands on Nature. (R) 1.30 Instant Restaurant. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. (R) 3.00 Heir Hunters. (R) 3.45 Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) 4.30 Flog It! (R) 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. (R) 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Top of the Pops 2 - Stripped. 7.30 Great British Menu. 8.00 Chelsea Flower Show 2012. 9.00 The Fish Market: Inside Billingsgate. 10.00 Grandma's House. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Golf: The PGA Championship. 12.20 BBC News. 4.00 BBC Learning Zone.

**ITV1** 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. (R) 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Midsomer Murders. (R) 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 People Power: Tonight. 8.00 Long Coronation Street. 9.00 Long Coronation Street. 9.00 Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Jimmy Tarbuck. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Soccer Aid 2012. 11.05 Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Lulu. (R) 12.05 Jackpot247; ITV News Headlines. 2.35 People Power: Tonight. (R) 3.00 ITV Nightscreen. 4.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 5.30 ITV Morning News.

**Channel 4** 6.10 Sali Mali. (R) 6.15 The Hoobs. (R) 6.40 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Freshly Squeezed. 7.35 According to Jim. (R) 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Undercover Boss Australia. (R) 10.00 Location, Location, Location. (R) 11.00 The Renovation Game. 12.00 Channel 4 News Midday Summary. 12.05 SuperScrimpers: Waste Not Want Not. (R) 1.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 Channel 4 Presents. 8.00 Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. 9.00 The Hoarder Next Door. 10.00 24 Hours in A&E. (R) 11.05 The Secret Millionaire. (R) 12.05 4thought.v. 12.10 Random Acts. (R) 12.15 Paralympic World Cup Highlights. 1.15 Extreme A&E. (R) 2.10 Unreported World. (R) 2.35 Beating the Recession - Cash vs Cards: Channel 4 Dispatches. (R) 3.05 Hidden Talent. (R) 4.00 Deal or No Deal. (R) 4.55 Glamour Puds. (R) 5.25 Countdown. (R)

**Channel 5** 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Highland Emergency. (R) 12.45 Chinese Food Made Simple. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 Law & Order. (R) 3.15 Chinese Food Made Simple. (R) 3.20 Film: McBride: Requiem. (2006) Mystery, starring John Larroquette. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 6.30. 7.00 Police Interceptors. A drink-driver is involved in a crash. (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 Close Encounters of the Third Kind: The True Story. 5 News at 9. 9.00 The Restaurant Inspector. 10.00 Film: Conspiracy Theory. (1997) Thriller, starring Mel Gibson. 12.40 SuperCasino. 4.00 House Doctor. (R) 4.25 Divine Designs. (R)

## Friday

**BBC1** 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Fake Britain. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 11.45 Bargain Hunt. (R) 12.30 Chelsea Flower Show 2012. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. (R) 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 EastEnders. 8.30 Would I Lie to You? 9.00 Have I Got News for You. The Great Michael McIntyre's Comedy Roadshow. (R) 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 The Graham Norton Show. 11.20 The National Lottery Friday Night Draws. 11.30 The Matt Lucas Awards. (R) 12.05 EastEnders. 12.00 Weatherview. 2.05 Sign Zone: Silk. (R) 3.05 Question Time. (R) 4.05 Great British Menu. (R) 4.35 BBC News.

**BBC2** 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 BBC World News. 12.00 Daily Politics. 1.00 Hands on Nature. (R) 1.30 Instant Restaurant. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. (R) 3.00 Heir Hunters. (R) 3.45 Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) 4.30 Flog It! (R) 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. (R) 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Top of the Pops 2 - Stripped. 7.30 Great British Menu. 8.00 Chelsea Flower Show 2012. 9.00 The Great British Story: A People's History. 10.00 Episodes. 10.30 Newsnight. 11.00 Weather. 11.05 Golf: The PGA Championship. 12.05 Later with Joels Holland. 1.10 Taken. (R) 2.35 BBC News. 4.40 Cuckoo.

**ITV1** 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. (R) 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Midsomer Murders. (R) 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 Poms in Paradise. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Jimmy Tarbuck. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Soccer Aid 2012. 11.05 Film: Barb Wire. (1996) Sci-fi thriller, starring Pamela Anderson. 12.50 The Store; ITV News Headlines. 3.00 Loose Women. (R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

**Channel 4** 6.10 Sali Mali. (R) 6.15 The Hoobs. (R) 6.40 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Freshly Squeezed. 7.35 According to Jim. (R) 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Undercover Boss Australia. (R) 10.00 Location, Location, Location. (R) 11.00 The Renovation Game. 12.00 Channel 4 News Midday Summary. 12.05 SuperScrimpers: Waste Not Want Not. (R) 1.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 Channel 4 Presents. 8.00 Come Dine with Me. 9.00 Out of 10 Cats. 9.30 Very Important People. 10.00 Alan Carr: Chatty Man. 11.05 Stand Up for the Week. 11.50 Rhod Gilbert and the Award-Winning Mince Pie. (R) 12.55 4thought.v. 1.00 Paralympic World Cup Highlights. 1.55 Random Acts. (R) 2.00 My Name Is Earl. (R) 2.45 Dirty Sexy Money. (R) 4.10 Reasons to Be Cheerful: Hallo Friend. (R) 4.25 Mesh: Daddy. (R) 4.30 Deal or No Deal. (R) 5.25 Countdown. (R)

**Channel 5** 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Highland Emergency. (R) 12.45 Chinese Food Made Simple. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 Law & Order. (R) 3.15 Film: Thrust. (1998) Drama. 5.00 Adam Arkin. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 6.30. 7.00 Cricket on 5. 5 News Update. 8.00 Mega Builders. 5 News at 9. 9.00 The Mentalist. 10.00 Castle. Holiday-makers return to find a dead man in their home. 10.55 Law & Order: Criminal Intent. Logan and Wheeler hunt an unlikely assassin. (R) 11.50 Inside Hollywood. (R) 12.00 SuperCasino. 3.55 Motorsport: Mundial. 4.20 Divine Designs. (R) 5.10 Wildlife SOS. (R)

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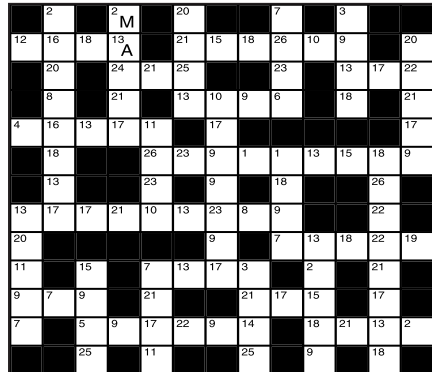
# thechronicle

## Brain Gym

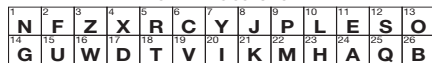
No.169

### Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:



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### Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

#### Cryptic Clues:

##### Across

- Russian friends? (8)
- How an engraver may make a good impression? (4)
- They may come between players (4)
- Possibly respects apparitions (8)
- Game that many take to (5)
- Sphere of vision (7)
- The extent of a course, for what it's worth (2,3,2,2,4)
- A capital fellow (8)
- Backroom man? (4)
- Depart later - in pursuit? (2,5)
- Its obvious it's flat (5)
- It's something to build on (4)
- Guiding line about two similar points (8)

##### Down

- One with a sour disposition, hard to bear (7)
- The stone archaeologists treat so cryptically? (7)
- Make a speedy apology? (7,6)
- Trouble with rent may come as a big blow (7)
- Jostles sleuths about (7)
- It indicates area, in a manner of speaking (6)
- Maintains there's a bit of body in the beers (7)
- Sweet and affectionate worker (7)
- The rest of the layers depends on them (6)
- One better (7)
- Noise or disturbance can be wearing (7)

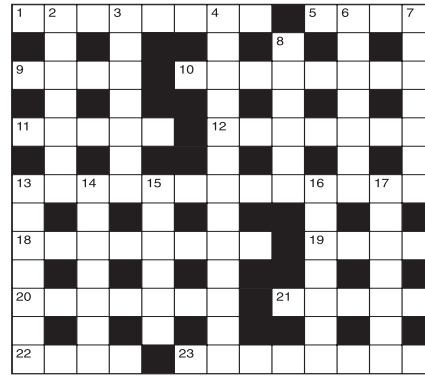
#### Quick Clues:

##### Across

- Amaze (8)
- Hastened (4)
- Harbour (4)
- Item of hosiery (8)
- Concur (5)
- Nourish (7)
- Give the show away (5,3,5)
- Categorise (8)
- Jot (4)
- Issue (7)
- Arms or legs (5)
- Look for (4)
- Blushed (8)

##### Down

- Temporary substitute (7)
- Ingredient of porridge (7)
- Avoid committing oneself (3,2,3,5)
- Flower (7)
- Stabbing weapons (7)
- Sacred beetle (6)
- Prosperity (7)
- Fancy (7)
- Girl (6)
- Building (7)
- Eminent (7)



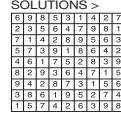
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:

CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Draper; 4 Patchy; 9 Presentiments; 10 Re-enter; 11 Theme; 12 Forms; 14 West; 18 Plain; 19 Worstest; 21 Exercise-books; 22 Deeper; 23 Unison. Down: 1 Depart; 2 An eye for an eye; 3 Erect; 5 Ammeter; 6 Conversations; 7 Yes-men; 8 Start; 13 Manacle; 15 Spread; 16 Awash; 17 Edison; 20 Robin. QUICK - Across: 1 Breast; 2 Brutal; 9 Intellectuals; 10 Gladden; 11 Ensure; 12 False; 14 Start; 18 Coach; 19 Refusal; 21 Accommodating; 22 Ensure; 23 Planet. Down: 1 Bridge; 2 Extravagances; 3 Solid; 5 Retreat; 6 Transgression; 7 Lessen; 8 Meant; 13 Schemer; 15 Scrape; 16 Prior; 17 Slight; 20 Frail.

### Sudoku

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

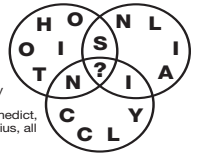


### Circlegram

Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters within each circle can be arranged to form words on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

The letter represented by the question mark is N. Benedict, Dominic, Ignatius, all saints.



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This town house in Coseley is available through estate agent Skitts. Call 01902 686868 for more information

## A town house in a quiet area for £135,000

**A QUIETLY-POSITIONED three-storey mid-town house with three bedrooms in a popular area of Coseley is on the market priced at £135,000.**

Convenient for all amenities including schooling, shops and public transport services, the home in Strathern Drive, Hurst Hill, offers superb views

and spacious accommodation with central heating and accommodation.

On the ground floor is a cloakroom with low-flush WC and wall-mounted wash hand basin, laundrette with single drainer stainless steel sink with base units, roll-edge work surface and plumbing for automatic washing machine and garage.

On the first floor the lounge is 16ft by 15ft and the dining kitchen – 16ft by 8ft – has a stainless steel sink, base

units with roll-edge work surfaces, built-in oven with four ring gas hob, wall cupboards and patio door to the rear garden.

On the second floor are three bedrooms and a bathroom with panelled bath with shower fitting, low flush WC and pedestal wash hand basin.

Outside the rear garden has a paved patio area, lawn area and rear access.

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The dining kitchen – 16ft by 8ft – includes a stainless steel sink, base units with roll edge work surfaces

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### HALESOWEN, BETHESDA GARDENS

Located in a quiet residential area, is this modern four bedroom link detached home close to Coley Lane Primary School and local amenities, comprising of Four Bedrooms, Master with En-Suite, House Bathroom with Hair Wax Facility, Modern Lounge with Feature Fireplace, Large Kitchen with Dining Area, Front and Rear Gardens, Driveway and Garage Parking.

**£750 PCM**



### HALESOWEN, LOWFIELD CLOSE

A lovely re-furnished Semi Detached House, set within a cul-de-sac location comprising of: Spacious Lounge, Modern Dining Kitchen, Gas Central Heating, Three Generous Bedrooms, Bathroom with Separate Shower, Garage and Driveway, Private Rear Gardens. 6/9 Months Let Only!

**£650 PCM**



### HALESOWEN, SANDERSON PLACE

Located in Hayley Green, is this unfurnished first floor apartment, briefly comprising of: Spacious Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Master with En-Suite, Bathroom and Parking Space. Viewing Highly Recommended.

**£650 PCM**



### ROWLEY REGIS, ALWIN ROAD

This detached house in a cul-de-sac location, and close to local shops and transport links, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Living Room, Dining Area, Fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Rear Garden, Driveway Parking, Unfurnished

**£595 PCM**



### STOURBRIDGE, THE PUMPHOUSE

This luxury modern furnished first floor apartment briefly comprises of: One Double Bedroom, Stunning Open Plan Lounge, High Spec Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom with Shower, Electric Storage Heating, Parking Space.

**£575 PCM**



### CRADLEY HEATH, PERRY PARK ROAD

A well presented three bedroom semi detached house comprising of: Lounge/Dining Area, Fitted Kitchen, Guest W.C./Utility Area, Three Double Bedrooms, Refitted Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Part Double Glazing, Rear Garden with Decking Area, Driveway for Two Cars. Close to Old Hill Railway Station. Available Early May. Viewing Recommended.

**£575 PCM**



### HALESOWEN, BANNERS STREET

A mid terrace property which has been refurbished, comprises of: Two Double Bedrooms, Brand New Fitted Kitchen, Two Reception Rooms, White Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Large Garden with Decking Area, On Road Parking, Available Immediately.

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### WORDSLEY, COOKNELL DRIVE

Located in the centre of Wordsley, is this unfurnished end terraced house, with local buses to Stourbridge and Merry Hill, comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Spacious Living Room, Fitted Dining Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, En-Suite Shower Room to Master Bedroom, House Bathroom, Rear Garden, Driveway Parking

**£525 PCM**



### HALESOWEN, TENTERFIELDS

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**£500 PCM**



### HALESOWEN, BANNERS STREET

This fully furnished end terrace house has: Two Double Bedrooms, Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Bathroom with Shower, Low Maintenance Rear Garden

**£495 PCM**



### HALESOWEN, CAVALIER DRIVE

Located within walking distance of central Halesowen, is this modern unfurnished third floor apartment, briefly comprising of: Spacious Living Room with a Door Leading to Your Own Balcony, Fitted Kitchen with White Goods, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Communal Gardens, Allocated Parking Space

**£495 PCM**



### CRADLEY HEATH, KING STREET

A very well presented top floor apartment in the centre of Old Hill, close to the local train station, and briefly comprising of: Two Double Bedrooms, Master Bedroom with En-Suite, House Bathroom with Shower, A Very Large and Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen with Washing Machine, Allocated Parking

**£495 PCM**



### NETHERTON, NORWICH ROAD

Located in a quiet road, is this unfurnished semi detached house, briefly comprising of: Two Good Sized Bedrooms, Fitted Kitchen, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Bathroom with Shower, Garage and Gated Driveway Parking, Front and Rear Gardens

**£495 PCM**



### HALESOWEN, VICTORIA COURT

A Two Bedroomed Second Floor Flat Having Accommodation Including Hall, Generous Lounge With Balcony Off Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom With Jacuzzi, Double Glazing And Storage Heating, Communal Gardens.

**£495 PCM**



### HALESOWEN, FAIRMILE ROAD

A first floor unfurnished flat, located on a bus route and in a popular area, briefly comprising of: Warm Air Heating, Large Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, House Bathroom with Shower, Double Glazing, Well Kept Communal Gardens, Parking Space to Front, Inspection Recommended

**£495 PCM**



### ROWLEY REGIS, CLEINT HILL DRIVE

Located in a very quiet cul-de-sac, is this starter home sized semi-detached house, comprising of: Two Good Sized Bedrooms, Fitted Kitchen, Cozy Living Room, House Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Low Maintenance Tiered Rear Garden, Parking Space to Front, Unfurnished

**£475 PCM**



### ROWLEY REGIS, POWKE LANE

An unfurnished apartment close to local amenities, briefly comprising of: Electric Storage Heating, Spacious Living Room, Fitted Dining Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Parking

**£445 PCM**



### CRADLEY HEATH, ARCHER GARDENS

An unfurnished ground floor maisonette, located close to shops and amenities, briefly comprising of: Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Parking Space

**£425 PCM**



### BRIERLEY HILL, FOXDALE DRIVE

Situated in a quiet location and within walking distance to Brierley Hill town centre and a short drive or bus to Merry Hill Shopping Centre is this ground floor apartment, comprising of: One Double Bedroom and One Single, Fitted Kitchen, House Bathroom with Shower, Spacious Lounge, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, One Allocated Parking Space

**£425 PCM**



### OLDBURY, CAUSEWAY GREEN ROAD

This large, split level flat above shops, within walking distance to bus links and close to J2 of the M5, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Spacious Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Parking to Rear, Unfurnished £400 for the 1st 6 months and £425 after

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### BRIERLEY HILL, CHURCHILL

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## Beeches Road, Rowley Regis



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## Shelton Lane, Halesowen



£135,000

•• VACANT POSSESSION •• Semi detached property comprising of porch, lounge, kitchen, three bedrooms and bathroom. Driveway, garage, front and rear gardens. Double glazing

## Westbourne Road, Halesowen



Offers Over £130,000

Three bedroom semi detached property, no upward chain, lounge/diner, conservatory, kitchen, first floor bathroom, double glazing and central heating, rear garden and driveway

## Bournes Hill, Halesowen



Three bedroom semi detached property, entrance hallway, downstairs shower room, utility, reception room suitable for study/playroom or guest room, lounge/diner, conservatory, kitchen, first floor shower room, driveway, rear garden, double glazing and central heating

Offers Over £150,000

## Oldbury Road, Rowley Regis



£185,000

Four bedroom detached bungalow on a generous plot, kitchen, lounge, conservatory, bathroom, wc, driveway, parking, garage, double glazing and central heating. Extensive rear garden. No chain.

## Shenstone Valley Road, Halesowen



£160,000

Traditional semi detached house in cul-de-sac location. Lounge/diner, conservatory, kitchen, three bedrooms, separate wc, shower room and double glazing and central heating. No chain.

## Crendon Road, Rowley Regis



£150,000

Three bedroom extended semi detached property comprising extended lounge, conservatory, kitchen, dining room, utility, bathroom, double glazing and central heating. Driveway and landscaped rear garden.

## Cherry Orchard Crescent, Halesowen



Offers Over £185,000

Three bedroom semi detached lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility, bathroom, driveway, garage, extensive rear garden, decked patio area, double glazing and central heating

## Fieldfare Close, Cradley Heath



£230,000

Four bedroom detached property comprising lounge/dining room, conservatory, kitchen, utility, double garage, en-suite and family bathroom. Double glazing, central heating and no chain.

## Duke Street, Rowley Regis



Offers Over £240,000

Five bedroom detached comprising breakfast kitchen, lounge, dining room, first floor bathroom, en-suite to main bedroom, further shower room, double glazing, central heating and garage.

## Hillbrow Crescent, Halesowen



Semi detached property comprising lounge open to dining area, kitchen, three bedrooms and bathroom. Driveway to fore and rear garden. Double glazing and central heating

£150,000

## Lodgefield Road, Halesowen



Three bedroom detached comprising lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility, wc, first floor bathroom and separate shower, double glazing, central heating, driveway and rear garden with garage

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**EXECUTIVE** express is a phrase often used to describe a fast, luxury saloon used to waft businessmen, celebrities and royalty from meeting to meeting.

Jaguar has always been there with the top of the range German marques, but its latest version of the multi-award winning XJ saloon is out to beat the best in this exclusive class.

The ultimate XJ has a top speed of 174mph and a 0 to 60mph sprint time of a fraction over four and a half seconds. And it does it in style without any sacrifice in terms of comfort or luxury for its inevitably well-heeled owners.

The fastest Jaguar saloon in history comes in at a cool £94,000, but for that you get a car which is distinctively styled, standing apart from its stablemates, and can match or better the likes of the BMW 740, the Mercedes-Benz S-Class and the Bentley Continental. All, by the way, which have an extra four cylinders and greater cubic capacity than the Midlands-built machine – and they use more fuel, too.

**By Sharon Walters**

The Jag's power plant is the same 5.0-litre V8 with 510bhp as the company's quickest two-seater, the XKR-S, thanks to the extra boost of a supercharger.

Jaguar's secret is the XJ's lightweight aluminium construction, which is not only the key to its rapid acceleration but also its sports car-like agility and braking (plus saving you a bit in tyre wear, too).

### Nervous

In conditions wet enough to make me nervous on the motorway trip to Jaguar's Warwickshire test track, the XJ performed superbly – reaching 168mph on the straight and braking so rapidly I almost slide forward under the seat belt.

I was in the executive armchairs in the rear, with a professional test driver in front. From this perspective the car is very little different in terms of quiet, comfortable progress until the driver pressed the "sport" button (sharpening up throttle response and reconfiguring the six-speed

automatic) gearbox, and the "dynamic" button which stiffens up the suspension.

The push-you-back-in-the-seat acceleration is impressive, and even after the 60mph mark comes up in 4.7 seconds there is little let up, the digits continuing to climb rapidly until well past 140mph.

Access to the test track's straight comes via a 180-degree right hander, taken at about 70mph. While I could do little to prevent the building g-forces from pushing my upper body to one side, the car clung to its line as if it was on rails, with no hint of under or oversteer.

It was equally stable under what equated to emergency braking at the end of the straight.

The ultimate XJ varies little from the standard luxury saloon, but visible differences include a small "lip" spoiler at the rear, an aerodynamic splitter at the front and new, 20-in alloys wheels. Behind them are the

larger brake discs, with exclusive red calipers.

This is the "sport" pack available as an option on other XJ models. Only the supercharged 5.0-litre car comes with the option of the "speed" pack, which essentially means Jaguar has tweaked the standard electronic speed limiter (set at 153mph on other versions) and added new soft grain leather sports seats and upgraded interior trim.

The XJ "speed" also has a distinctive black mesh grille and some of its instru-

ments had to be recalibrated, such as the tyre pressure monitoring system to take account of the heat generated by high speed driving.

It's a heady mixture: a car which more than holds its own in the world of sophisticated, luxury saloons yet outperforms many rivals classed as sports cars. It's a class-leading car which has already given Britain's export trade a boost, and shown that Jaguar is not afraid to take on its competitors head-on.



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A five-metre cable and charging set tucks away underneath the Prius's boot floor

# Toyota putting an end to the distance anxiety

**PRIUS Plug-in, which reaches show-rooms in July, offers all the familiar virtues of Prius and quite a few more.**

It is powered by a full hybrid powertrain, but thanks to new, rechargeable lithium-ion battery technology, it can cover longer distances and reach higher speeds on electric power alone.

Seamlessly

Once the charge in the battery is used, the car switches seamlessly to its hybrid system, so there's no need for anxiety about distances.

As a result, Prius Plug-in achieves a new low benchmark in its class for official CO2 emissions, 49 g/km.

Recharging the battery is simple and speedy,

using a power point linked to a standard supply, or a street charging point. Prius Plug-in comes with a charging set, including 5m of cabling, stored beneath the boot floor.

Prius Plug-in has LED daytime running lights and headlights; Toyota Touch and Go Plus with touchscreen controls, satellite navigation, voice recognition, rear-view camera and advanced Bluetooth, a DAB digital tuner, eight-speaker JBL sound system, rain-sensing wipers and cruise control.

## Leather

Heated front seats, 15-inch alloy wheels with wheel caps and leather steering wheel trim are also included.

Black leather upholstery (£1,500) and rear

privacy glass (£270) are available as options, together with a Protection Pack (rear parking sensors and boot liner) and a Style Pack (exterior chrome trim elements), both at £360.

Four exterior colours make up the palette for Prius Plug-in, led by Sky Blue (metallic), a new shade exclusive to the model. Tyrol Silver and Novus Grey metallics and White Pearl Pearlescent are also available.

In the cabin the upholstery is Minowa black fabric with optional Setana black leather.

The on-the-road price for Prius Plug-in is £32,895, but this falls to £27,895 with the benefit of the £5,000 Government grant available on new vehicle purchases, provided through the Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV).

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# True icon of British motoring

By David Banner

IT'S NOT every day that you can get up close and personal with the world's oldest Range Rover, a pre-production Prototype 100/6, named for its 100in wheelbase and order of build, that represents the genesis of an icon spanning decades.

Having had little but a mid-1990s tidy-up since crossing the Sahara Desert twice 40 years ago, it's looking and feeling a little tired these days, but it was still seen for sale at the start of the year for just under £78,000. You can get a new one for less than that.

Some of the special guests invited to an event by Land Rover had history with the car, such as Mike Foster who hadn't seen 100/6 since he said goodbye to it in 1969.

Foster was Sahara Desert operations manager for adventure expedition company Minitrek Expeditions, and is a veteran of 40 Sahara missions having led 36 of them himself.

Back in 1969 he was tasked with a hush-hush assignment by British Leyland and Rover to desert-test two of its newest (and apparently top secret) vehicles, accompanied by a team from Rover itself.

It was disguised with the name "VELAR" to try to throw journalists off the scent of what it was really going to be, but nonetheless the Japanese were there and watching when Prototype 100/6 and its slightly older brother Prototype 100/5 arrived in North Africa.

Number 100/5 was later deliberately destroyed as part of crash-testing at Rover's facilities in the Midlands, leaving this one as the oldest survivor.

Foster told me more about the prototypes' early days. "The two Range Rovers were flown from Southend to Algiers where the planes refuelled and then down to El Golea; down into the Sahara Desert in Algeria," he begins.

"We set off in secrecy and bombed down into Tamanrasset and the central Sahara, and then down into Niger; a 3,500-mile expedition which gave them a really good desert testing." Naturally, we're talking about the late 1960s and a British Leyland company so it wasn't all smooth sailing.

## Snags

"A few snags occurred," says Foster, "but not many. When we went over large bumps the rear hatchback would fly open. Nothing major."

"The first real problem was when we were about halfway around the 3,500-mile expedition."

"This red one here was in softish sand and our driver, the head of the Rover team, pulled away in two-wheel-drive and the rear axle support plate came half adrift."

"We were about 100 miles into the desert with about 300 to go until our next stopover," he adds.

"There was a Touareg guide with me who knew a smooth route ahead and we decided to go on."

"When we got to Dirkou there happened to be a French officer on secondment to the Niger army who was a welder."

"He welded both Range Rovers' rear axle support plates – he just took the axles off and welded them. That was probably the most noticeable problem we encountered," says Foster.

Prototype 100/6 is an almost living reminder of a time when adventure was real adventure. Long before satnav, GPS technology or satellite phones, this humble, untested red box made it across the Sahara and back.

The fact that the production Range Rover's basic shape stayed the same until 1995, within living memory for most of us, means that the history attached to 100/6 feels much more tangible than that of, say, a perfectly preserved Ford Model T. It's a special reminder that Britain – although it's sometimes held together with impromptu welding and lots of gaffer tape – has always punched above its weight in the world.

If the ultimately rubbish British Leyland-owned Rover could build Prototype 100/6, I'm not surprised at all that today's slick, efficient Land Rover is building such all-conquering off-roaders. It's one British motoring institution



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**OAK REFRACTORY** table & oak newly upholstered seats, approx 50-60 yrs old, very good condition. £300. o.n.o. 01582 837668.

**WANTED**  
ANY GAUGE OR AGE  
Hornby, Bachman, Wrenn and Graham/Farish.

Any make, also live steam. Guaranteed top cash prices paid!!  
0121 602 2569 or 07891 713547

**WANTED** Gazebos, garden tables/chairs, toys, books, for fundraising for Alzheimers and Dementia in Wolverhampton. 01902 375888.

**TWO AND Three piece settee's**, 1 chair. Antique green leather, solid oak base. Very good condition. £1500 one. 0121 550 3289.

**3 SEATER**, traditional brown leather/fabric scatter cushions back, 3 seater sofa, cuddle chair, SCS Carnaby, 16 months old, excellent. £250. 0121 5201563.

**A. ABSOLUTE BEST** cash price paid for house clearances and bereavements. Tel: 07852 172641.

## house clearances

**ADVERTISE SIX NIGHTS** per week from as little as £10.44 per night plus vat, with Trade Contract Advertising. Published Full circulation Express and Star. Two Chromelins and Internet. Interested? Telephone Cynthia Jones on 01902 319667.

**CORRUGATED** roofing sheets Also tile effect box profile (curved and z purlins). Hornsey Steels 01547 530419

**FOR A QUICK SALE**

**WHOLESALE STOCK**  
Beautiful baby clothes and gifts for sale. Reluctant sale to due to moving abroad. Baby clothes and sets, soft teddies, piggy banks, blankets, photo frames, gift boxes and much more. Must be seen. Absolute bargain

£220 ono.  
01902 755352.

## items wanted

**ALL GOLD 9ct £300 per ounce CASH PAID TODAY**

**A GENUINE LADY BURR**  
All Reswick • Doulton • Worcester Moorcroft • Old coins • Watches Jewellery • Old toys • Clocks • Paintings • All silver items • Pre 47 silver coins All war medals etc.

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New stores opening in your area. See website for details.  
0845 900 4044  
[www.cash4clothes.co.uk](http://www.cash4clothes.co.uk)

**ALL MEMORABILIA**, old TVs, bronzes, phones, medals, toys, tiles, slots old firearms, anything old. 07930 949337 (Dudley).

**FOOTBALL PROGRAMMES**  
Tickets and other sports memorabilia.  
Top prices paid for the right item.  
Call Paul 01543 251743.

**RAILWAY COLLECTIONS**

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ANY GAUGE OR AGE  
Hornby, Bachman, Wrenn and Graham/Farish.

Any make, also live steam. Guaranteed top cash prices paid!!  
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**HOUSE CLEARANCES/Tree Surgery/ Rubbish Removals**. No need to start. B4176 at Rabbits Run. Nr Chesterton. Between Telford & Dudley

**BEST SATURDAY BOOT SALE**  
8am start. A454 Rudge Heath. Between W-ton & Bridgnorth WV6 7EE

**AFTERNOON SATURDAY BOOT SALE**  
12 noon start. B4176 at Rabbits Run. Nr Chesterton. Between Telford & Dudley

**BEST EVERY SUNDAY & BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY BOOT SALE**  
10am start at Pook Lane. A461 Muckley Corner. Between Walsall & Lichfield.

**A SUPER EVERY SATURDAY & BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY BOOT SALE**  
10am start at Pook Lane. A461 Muckley Corner. Between Walsall & Lichfield.

**BIGGEST BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY BOOT SALE**  
10am. B4176 Rabbit Run, between Dudley and Telford. By T.F.M. WV15 5LS. [www.bestbootssales.com](http://www.bestbootssales.com)  
07890 267041

**caravans wanted**

**TOURING CARAVAN** or similar wanted up to £2017000000. Anything considered. 07980 365757.

**kitchens & bathrooms**

**★ DOULTON** bathroom suite, wood, inset bath units, wc, basin, inc gold taps/panelling, bargain £175. 07576 952900.

**FITTED KITCHEN** medium oak wood, inset bath units, wc, basin, inc gold taps/panelling, bargain £175. 07576 952900.

**WANTED** Gazebos, garden tables/chairs, toys, books, for fundraising for Alzheimers and Dementia in Wolverhampton. 01902 375888.

## music shop

**DRUMMER AND BASS GUITARIST REQUIRED**

For the gigging Classic Rock Band. Called 'Hardride'.

Applicants should apply detailing their equipment, experience and reliable transport either by email to [leslieturner1000@gmail.com](mailto:leslieturner1000@gmail.com) or in writing to

9 Swan Lane  
Industrial Estate,  
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**KEYBOARD PLAYER** Required. M/F. For established female fronted rock covers band. Social and fun. 07951 244251.

**pc's, laptops & accessories**

**APPLE IPAD**  
64Gb WiFi and 4G 3rd gen. £500.  
07939 237946.

**LAPTOP COMPUTER**, Windows, Office, antivirus, internet ready. WiFi, good condition, can deliver. £80. 07867 826843.

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**A AND M CHEAP** Removals local, careful firm, full part loads. Don 0800 587 0377 / 07749 941319.

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**REMOVAL VAN & DRIVER FOR HIRE**  
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All sizes covered  
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07890 267041

**caravans wanted**

**TOURING CARAVAN** or similar wanted up to £2017000000. Anything considered. 07980 365757.

**plans prepared**

**ADAM DESIGN**, Building Plans. Drawn and submitted to council. Tel: 01902 620200 / 07841 654037.

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**MG ROOFING** Flat roofs, tiling, roof repairs, fascias and gutters. Call 01902 238989 / 07580 465449.

**PREMIER ROOFING** 25% off all New Roofs. Repairs and Fascias. 01384 353600 or 0787

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## caravans / motorhomes

**ABBEY AVENTURA 316**  
2006, 4-5 berth, motor mover, blow air heating, sunroof, removable carpets, Isabella awning, alloy wheels, extras, as new.  
**£8,995**  
**07880 582556**

**ABBEY VOGUE 600 TWIN AXLE**  
2008, 6-berth, bunk beds, end bathroom, full size awning, used once, many extras, excellent condition.  
**£10,200 ono.**  
**07976 060735**

**ABI DALEMAN**  
1997, 5 berth, 19ft long, full shower room, blow air heating, full oven and cooker, many extras, including awning.  
**£2,450 o.n.o.**  
**07919 518167**

**ATLAS RUBY**  
Year 2000, 32'x12' in excellent condition. 2 bedrooms. Fully sited on the Old Station Caravan Park quiet park on the Mid Wales Border.  
**£8,750**  
**07917 846508**

**BAILEY PAGEANT BORDEAUX**  
2007, Series 6.  
Fixed bed, 4-berth, toilet, shower, electric mover.  
Excellent condition.  
**£7,950 o.n.o.**  
Telephone 01922 477753

**A BEAUTIFUL PARK nr Ludlow**  
35ft x 12ft Caravans from £10,000.  
01584 822453 Why go further? Give us a visit www.bepark.co.uk

**CARAVAN for sale, on small select park, near Ludlow, two bedrooms, all services, £5,500. Rent paid until March 2013.**  
**£5,500**  
**01584 822453**

**COMPASS 1996**, 5 berth, 170L, shape lounge, h/c, shower, cassette toilet, awning. Good condition. Extras. £2,300 ono.  
**07977 053843**

**DOREMA AWNING**, 890cms, size 10. Two tall awnings, with sleeping compartments. £350. o.n.o. 01902 574042.

**EIGHT BERTH LUXURY** Static with large decking, sited in Llanybrynmair, fully equipped, ground rent paid, £6,500. 07914 524601.

**ELDDIS CRUSADER AURORA**  
September 2009, 4 berth, fixed bed, microwave, motor mover, awning, etc, immaculate condition, used only 6 weeks.  
**£11,800 ono. 01902 842284.**

**ELDDIS MISTRAL EX300**, 1997, 2 berth, 1 owner, regularly serviced, excellent condition, many extras. £2,250 ono. 0121 4454462.

**LMC CARAVAN** 4 berth with a fixed bed, 1995, very tidy, £2,500 ono. 07875 481615.

**MOBILE HOME FOR SALE** in Coven, 2 bed single unit. Residents must be over 50.  
**£37,000.**  
Telephone 01902 781259 After 6pm.

**MOTORHOME**  
**FIAT DUCATO**  
**AUTOROLLER**

1997, 38,000 miles, 12 months MoT, 5 months tax, excellent condition throughout, toilet, bathroom, fridge, cooker, sleeps 4-5, self standing awning and lots of extras.  
**£12,500 ono.**

Telephone 0121 522 4927,  
**07812 725361 or 07852 964768.**

**PEMBERTON MONTROSE 2005: IN MID-WALES.**  
Owner moving abroad leaving 1 x 32' flat TV, 1x 19' flat TV, washing machine, tumble dryer, DVD, CD. Many extras including new reclining suite. CH. Everything included. Sleeps up to 7 people. Large decking area. Ground rent paid till Aug 2012. Reduced to **£25,000 ono.** Call 01686 650985

**FORCH** awning Kampa 390 Pro + 390cm x 240cm, extras, used once, £250. Ground sheet £30. 01584 963205 or 07970 841177.

**STATIC CARAVAN**, Mid-Wales. Everything included, full decking and 2nd ground rent. **£6,995 ono. 01952 282433 - 07330 078752**

**SWIFT CHALLENGER 1999**, 2 berth, end shower room, end dining room, with full awning, good condition. £3,250. 01384 376308.

**SWIFT CHALLENGER**  
19ft, 5-berth.  
Twin axle. Very lightweight. Full oven. 3 Way fridge.  
Toilet room. Shower.  
Hot and cold water.  
Blow air heating.  
Full Isabella awning.  
Plus extras.  
Good condition.  
**£2,000.**  
Telephone 01902 733104 or 07802 693262.

**SWIFT CHARISMA 560**  
4 berth, 2009, motor mover, awning, shower, end bathroom. Fully equipped. Totally immaculate. One owner, no pets no smokers.  
**£8,595.**  
**07703 540507 or 01384 274518.**

**SWIFT CHARISMA 560**  
4 berth, 2009 model, motor mover, awning, cooler, never been used, end bathroom. Fully equipped. Immaculate.  
**£8,995.**  
**07703 540507 or 01384 274518.**

**SWIFT CONQUEROR 630 SAL TWIN AXLE**  
This is a top of the range van, having hob, oven, grill, end bathroom, separate shower cubicle, 1 shape lounge, fixed double bed, fridge and freezer, microwave.  
**£8,999.**  
**01384 571234 or 07702 104000.**

**SWIFT CORNICHE 2** berth, 1999, excellent condition, lady owner, non smoker, no pets, extras included. £3,595. 01902 787682.

**TALBOT HIGHWAYMAN** motor caravan, 1989, 62,000 miles, 11 months MoT, must be seen, £4,500. 01902 681648.

**WILLERBY 32x12FT**  
6-berth, large lounge, Liabrynmair, Mid-Wales, quiet site, 2 fish pools and 20 minutes to the coast.  
Rent included.  
**£3,800.**  
Telephone 075703 73695.

**equestrian corner**  
**BEACON FARM Riding Club**. Open Show, Sunday May 20th 10am start. Showing - Jumping 01922 827234 or 01922 837996.

**guns & dogs**  
**NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS**  
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

**in your garden**  
**LARGE FAMILY GAS BBQ** with separate gas hob, underneath storage plus cover, all utensils included also temperature gauge for cooking when lid is down, cost £1,000 sell for £520 ono.  
**07432 476904.**

**pets corner**  
**NOTICE TO READERS**  
Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:  
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with its Mother.  
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.  
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.  
Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

**ADORABLE KITTENS**, 8 weeks old, 3, all girls, wormed, no fleas, litter trained, £40 each to ensure good homes. 0121 553 0526.

**BABY MINI Lop Rabbits**, Good temperament. Nice colours.  
**£20 each.**  
**07918 185941. Dudley area.**

**CHIHUAHUA Puppies**, very small, apple dome heads, parents can be seen, 12 weeks, £550. 07969 560696.

**CHOCOLATE LABRADOR** Puppies, in Family home, chipped and vaccinated. 07973 506026. Telford.

**FOR SALE** Proven Lutino Galah hen, 6 weeks old, 100% split for Cock bird, a proven pair of Galahs perfect. 07881 811774.

## FOREST DOG RESCUE

Rehoming - Tigga - Lurcher, 18mths, male. Jasper - Lurcher, 10mths, male. Fozzie - GSD X, 4mths, male. Freddie - Greyhound, 6yrs, male. Tommy - Lurcher, 1yr, male. Blue - young Lurcher, male. Casper - GSD X, young male. Jake - young Jack Russell, 6yrs, male. Bud - Jack Russell, 6yrs, male. Jessie J - Collie, 18mths, female. Toffi - Staffie, 1yr, male. Theo - Staffie male, 18 mths. Vinnie - Rottie, young, male.

**01299 266313 or 07564 262371**  
**w w w . f o r e s t - d o g . r e s c u e . o r g . u k**

**FREE TO GOOD HOME** 2½ year old Jack Russel X Chihuahua, needs rehoming where he will be the only dog. 07917 802456.

**JACK RUSSELL** puppies, 3 girls, 7 weeks, tri coloured, £125 each. 01902 448037 or 07717 412848.

**JACK RUSSELL** Puppies, very small, black and white, £160 each. 07759 737894

## KIND HOMES WANTED

**Petra** Eight year old German Shepherd X, Lovely girl, happy with other dogs and people. **Carla** One year old Lab X, happy and playful, ideal pet with children. **Ginnie** Ginger coloured Terrier X, well balanced and happy. **Ricky** Eight year old X breed, gentleman of a dog, good with cats, kids and people, owner passed away, gentle boy. **Pip** Two year old girl Border Collie, mostly white and black, seeks a active home with other dogs.

**01588 676106.**

**KITTENS**  
Gorgeous, playful, ginger / ginger and white, 2 boys, 1 girl, 8 weeks old, d/leaded and wormed.  
**£40 to ensure good homes.**  
**07904 739757.**

**KITTENS**, X2 Male and Female. **Russell** Cross Dog 6 years. Intelligent. Good with dogs, children, not cats. W:ton. 07432 703399.

**NEW HOME** wanted for Jack Russell Cross Dog 6 years. Intelligent. Good with dogs, children, not cats. W:ton. 07432 703399.

**PIPPA**  
Three year old Staffy Mongrel sort of girl.  
Happy, good with other dogs and people.  
Always pleased to see everybody.  
She is not the prettiest girl and has scars on her face but has a lovely temperament.  
Come on somebody who is looking for more than good looks.  
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**SIBERIAN HUSKY PUPPY**, 15 months old, black and white markings, illness forces sale, £450. Good home only.  
**01902 563320 or 07973 775560.**

**SPROCKER** Puppies, 9 weeks old, wormed and de-flead, parents can be seen, £200. 07906 831760.

**STAFFIE PUPS** Only 4 left, blue, Mom & Dad can be seen. Chunky healthy pups. £500. 07737 114481.

**STAFFORDSHIRE Bull Terrier** cross male, four years old, white tan, family dog. Free to good home. 01902 894021.

**WANTED AVIARY** birds for large private aviary. Also Pigeons and Poultry for beginner and Parrot for house pet. 07970 485491.

**WANTED AVIARY** birds for large private aviary. Also Pigeons and Poultry for beginner and Parrot for house pet. 07970 485491.

**WESTIE PUPPIES**, 8 weeks old, wormed and de-flead, good homes only. £325. 07906 831760.

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**markets**  
**BIGGEST SUNDAY MARKET IN THE MIDLANDS**  
Recess Stadium, Walsall FC  
WS1 4SA, FREE PARKING, J9 M6  
07889 975701 All hard standing

**property**  
**accommodation to let**

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
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**A FURNISHED ROOM** for single person, CH, TV, lighting, cleaning, linen, kitchen area, all bills, £285pcm. Stafford Road. 01902 874373. No DSS.

**A TWO BED FLAT BILSTON**  
Good condition, CH, DG no pets, no smoking 07411 456566  
**BEDFORD COMPTON AREA**, newly decorated, quiet house, doorstep amenities. Call 07768 667831.

**BLACKHEATH**, Large 2-bed flat, Long Lane, DG, £425pcm. For details call 07930 387190.

**DUDLEY** 1-bed flat near town and bus station, part furnished. DSS preferred 07725 525540.

**DUDLEY**, 3-bed. Unfurnished, detached, refurbished. No Pets / DSS. £550 pcm. 07875 049184.

**DUDLEY REDSITS** to let from £50-£85 pw inc bills, secure, D.S.S ok, flex terms. 07796 568844.

**DUNSTALL**, 3-bed, 2 reception rooms, 2 bathrooms, garage, gardens. £575pcm. 07949 233747.

**NETHERTON** 4 bed, large kitchen/lounge, very good local amenities. 07949 453966.

**ONE BED FLAT** Sealed contained, CH, parking, Dunstall area. 07885 547013.

**PARK VILLAGE** 3 bed house. New boiler, windows, kitchen, decor. £450 07855 847977

**STOUBRIDGE/ DUDLEY** area houses / flats, DSS welcome. 07831 200692 / 01562 885688.

**STUDIO FLAT** Netherton, £80pw. Five 1 and 2-bed apartments, Wood Section, Dudley, refurbished to very high spec, from £90pw. DSS ok. 0758962030.

**THREE BEDROOM** HOUSE to LET, Walsall, CH, DG, DSS considered. 07825 581676.

**THREE BEDROOM** House driveway, cul-de-sac. DSS accepted. W.Hall. £575. 07904 037462.

**WALL HEALTH** Albion Parade. Two bed maisonette. Flat. TSR 01902 421216

**WE BUY, SELL, LET & refurbish** houses, flats, DSS welcome. Service. Properties to let from £300pcm. 07863 299115.

**mobile homes**  
**PARK HOME FOR SALE**  
20x30 model, 2 bedroom mobile home, LPG GCH, DG, own garage, drive and garden. Semi retirement park for 50's plus.  
No chain for prompt sale. Poolview Caravan Park, Buildwas, TF87BS  
Cosmetic attention required hence £30,000 o.n.o.  
**0714 936053**

**PARK HOME**  
**FOR SALE**  
Residential site in Hampton Loade.  
36ft x 20ft, 2 beds master ensuite, separate bathroom and shower, fully fitted kitchen including all white goods, gas CH with own gas tank.  
Parking space for 2 cars.  
**£115,000 ono.**  
**01746 781120.**

**PARK HOME FOR SALE**  
Residential site in Coven Heath for over 50's.  
40ft x 20ft, large lounge, separate dining kitchen with integrated appliances, 2 bedrooms, master with en suite, separate bathroom with corner bath, natural gas CH.

Own private entrance with parking for 3 or more cars.  
Large plot.  
**£109,995 ono.**  
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**overseas property**  
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**houses for sale**  
**MABLETHORPE**  
**LINCOLNSHIRE COAST**  
3 bedroom detached dorma bungalow quite cul-de-sac 1/2 mile to beach for quick sale due to ill health.  
Offers over £110,000  
Telephone 01507 478794.

**BILSTON**  
Semi detached, 3 bed, large lounge, large kitchen, large enclosed rear garden, garage and off road parking. Primary and Secondary Schools nearby. Close to Town Centre.  
**£130,000 ono. 07976 752519.**

**WROCKWARDINE WOOD**. Old detached cottage (15 Plough Road) with large plot of land for development. £250,000 ono.  
**01952 617987.**

**businesses for sale**  
TO LET, long term on lease, 3 holiday flats, central location in Barmouth, good successful business. 01955 651219.

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ANY AREA  
ANY CONDITION  
A guaranteed offer on your property \*  
No fuss - an easy sale  
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## motoring

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**MOBILE MECHANICS** Service & repairs. Headgasket, clutches and cambelts. 07747 848469.

#### tyres / wheels / exhausts

**WANTED.** Set of new Range Rover Sport 2011s tyres. Telephone 07815 195807.

### cars over £1500

### MUST BE SEEN

**AUDI A4 3.0 TDI QUATTRO** 2006, 06 reg. Convertible. Silver with dark blue hood. Diesel. 62,000 miles. 6 speed. Manual. Factory Sat Nav. Wind Deflector. Service History. 12 months MoT. £10,750 ono. 07736 679740. Wombourne area.

### CLASSIC CAR

**BMW 318 CONVERTIBLE** 1991, (H reg), 83,000 genuine miles, FSH, Tax and MoT. Stunning classic in superb condition. £2,750. 07525 911122 or 01630 685241.

### CLASSIC CAR

**BMW 318SE.** 03, 9 months MoT and tax, also 9 months BMW warranty, immaculate, £3,700. 01922 452315

### CITROEN C3 14VTR +

2010, 14,000 miles, silver, abs, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, air con, metallic paint, central locking, on owner, cruise control, pas, tax, alloys, stereo, CD, spots, panoramic windscreen. £7,250. 07505 652701.

### CITROEN C5 1.6 HDI Design

(06), silver, 58k, full MoT, tax end May. Automatic lights, wipers, EW, CL, AC, etc, cat 1 approved alarm/immobiliser, parking sensors. Parrot phone kit. Excellent condition. £3,495. 07976 869485

### FAMILY SIZE

#### CITROEN PICASSO

**1.6I PETROL.** Silver. 54 plate. Nearly 40mpg. 55,000 miles. Full Service History. Seven months MoT. Genuine reason for sale. £1,950. Telephone 01562 745571.

### FAMILY SIZE

**CITROEN XSARA** Picasso, 2.0 diesel, tax, MoT, FSH, 84k, very good condition. £2,850 ono. 07973 144772 or 01902 865402.

**FORD C-MAX LX.** 1.8 petrol, 53 reg, low mileage, 12 months MoT, 6 months tax. £2,800 ono. 01902 441367.

**FORD C-MAX STYLE 1.8** petrol, 2008, 24k, superb condition, service history, tax. MoT. £5,900. 01902 650261/07780 847130.

**FORD FIESTA 1.4** diesel, 53 reg, blue, MoT till December. £30 per year tax, excellent condition. £2,200 ono. 07875 444780.

**FORD FIESTA 1.4 ZETEC.** 2008, tango red, 35,500 miles, excellent condition, 11 months MoT must be seen. £4,200. 07930 342951.

### FORD FIESTA

2006, Factory fitted Wolf Pack front, rear spoiler with side skirts, 5 spoke Wolf Race alloys, 1.4, 20,500 miles, apple green, abs, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, air con, fsh, alarm, long MoT, central locking, pas, tax, CD, petrol. £4,500 ono. 01902 675182.

**FORD FIESTA.** 2007, 50,000 miles, light blue, 12 months tax, 6 months MoT. £3,000. 07805 516444.

**FORD FOCUS** 1.8 TDCI, 18 Diesel, 10 months MoT, fsh, £1,600 ono. 07758 748148.

**FORD FOCUS 1.8 TDCI.** Sport, 2007, 98k, reg, long tax and MoT. 5Dr, lady owner, fsh, handsfree kit, £4,450. 07511 724291.

**FORD FOCUS ESTATE 1.6 GHIA AUTO** Leather interior, 53 plate, 44k miles only, tax, excellent condition. £1,950 for quick sale. 0121 550 4576 Halesowen.

**FORD FOCUS** estate, 2007, 1.8 diesel, 51,000 miles, tax and MoT. good condition. £3,900. 01902 634410 or 07944 895756.

**FORD FOCUS** Zetec TDCI, 1.8, 5dr, 05 reg, MoT/tax Nov, silver, 78k miles. £3,800 ono. 01384 872523.

**FORD KA** STYLE, 52 reg., long MoT, can tax, stereo, good condition, bargain £750 or very nearest offer. 07870 878353.

**FREELANDER Sport 1.8.** 2000, 3dr, silver, good condition, electrics, 100k, cam belt change at 85k, head gasket last Sept, 2 new front tyres, 6 months tax, 12 months MoT, well maintained. £1,700 ono. 07792 748555.

**JAGUAR XJ6 3.2 EXECUTIVE.** September 2001, Mistral blue, 2 owners, 77,000 miles, fsh, 5 months MoT, excellent condition. £2,250 ono. Telephone 0121 556 7405.

**LAND ROVER DEFENDER 110 TDS.** Pick Up, 2003 (03) 96,300 miles, 3 owners, MoT Sept 2012, 3 front seats, snorkel pipe, alloys, bluetooth radio CD player, aluminium chequer plate wings, headlamp grills. 2 keys, in immaculized condition. £7,250. 07771 912500.

**LANDROVER FREELANDER** 03, silver, short tax, MoT, double sunroof, CD, petrol, lady owner, nice condition very reliable £2,995 07786 967970.

**MAZDA 6 TS** Estate diesel, 2006, 72,000 miles. Cruise control, AC, CD, alloys. Good condition. £3,500 ono. 07834 462696.

**MERCEDES BABY A170** diesel, 14b, economical, 03 reg, perfect condition. £3,995 will exchange. TDA Freelander. 01902 895481.

**MG ZT CDTI** 2004, BMW diesel engine, full MoT, tax, fsh, 50,000 genuine miles, lovely condition, £3,350 ono. 07970 992872.

**MINI COOPER.** 2001, red with Chilli Pack, 87k, 12 months MoT and tax. £3,500. 07780 394802.

**PEUGEOT 107** Dark grey, one owner, excellent condition, 55 reg, 33,000 miles only, tax/MoT September 2012. £3,500 ono. 01902 791448.

**PEUGEOT 206** C Convertible, low mileage, 12 months MoT, immaculate condition inside and out. £3,250 ono. 0121 5373177.

**PEUGEOT 207cc** Sport, 08 reg, 22,500 miles, 6 months tax, 12 months MoT, fsh, excellent condition. £5,750. 01952 412960.

**PEUGEOT 407 1.6 DIESEL** SW Saloon, 05 plate, MoT Nov, 96,000 miles, very good condition. £2,800. 07765 272001.

**RANGE ROVER SPORT HSE** 2005, 63,000 miles, silver, auto, diesel, Sat Nav, heated front/rear black leather seats, new tyres, fsh, a/c, long MoT/tax, immaculate. £16,995. Telephone 07815 195807.

**RENAULT CLIO** 2005, Long MoT, 17" alloys, silver, 80k, Good condition. £4,900. 01902 516415 or 07838 751584.

**RENAULT CLIO** Dynamique 1.2, 2004, 5dr, 56,600 miles, silver/MoT, £2,200 ono. 01384 287217 or 07885 330755.

**RENAULT CLIO** Dynamique 1.2, 2004, 5dr, 56,600 miles, silver, e/w, MoT, sunroof, £2,500 ono. 07885 330755.

**RENAULT GRAND SCENIC.** silver, 90,000 miles, 12 months MoT, five months tax. £1,800. Telephone 07535 151733.

**RENAULT LAGUNA** 2005 74k blue a/c fsh MoT new tyres pas tax alloys CD petrol £2,495 ono. 07860 967102.

**RENAULT MEGANE 1.4** petrol, 3dr, hatchback, 54 reg, blue, abs, e/w, a/c, rel, alarm, MoT, tax, pas, alloys, CD. £2,100. 07791 512961.

**RENAULT MODUS** 2005, 49,000 miles, silver, electric windows, full MoT, long tax, lovely car, £2,250 ono. 01785 712747.

**VAUXHALL 1.6** Meriva Breeze, 55 reg, black, 67,200 miles, MoT, tax, alloy wheels, abs, a/c, CD/MP3, £2,990 ono. 07969 023990.

**VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6i** Club, 2004, 51k miles, petrol, a/c, fsh, 10 months MoT, 6 months tax, new tyres, outstanding condition. £2,150 ono. 01384 671225.

**VAUXHALL TIGRA 1.4 EXCLUSIVE** Only 14,000 miles, June 2009, a/c, heated leather seats, silver, one owner. £6,950 ono. Telephone 01746 789205.

**VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 T** seats, Auto, 04, blue, tax and MoT, very good condition. £2,850 ono. 07969 630221.

**VW GOLF VR6**, 1996, dark green, good condition, MoT January 2013, tax August, full history. £790. 07407 559774.

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**PEUGEOT 206** 5dr, 51 plate, low mileage, very economical, full MoT, good condition, ideal 1st car. £375 ono. 07917 843551.

**RENAULT LAGUNA** 1.8, petrol, Y reg, red, tax, MoT, alloys, half leather, excellent, 2885 ono. Telephone 07773 594038.

**RENAULT MEGANE** 1.6, X reg, 5dr, MoT/tax, good condition, electric windows and mirrors 125k. £495 ono. 07947 885245.

**ROVER 216 SLI** auto, low miles, 5dr, M Reg, honda engine, MoT/tax, pas, e/w, good cond, reliable. £525 ono. 07549 700317.

**ROVER 45 IMPRESSION** ST, 1.6 petrol, 02 reg, MoT August, excellent condition, 1850 ono. Telephone 01902 752963.

**ROVER 75 1.8 CONNOISSEUR** 2003, 11 months MoT, 5 months tax, electric leather seats, AC etc, recently serviced, nice car. £550 ono. 01902 750687.

**ROVER 75 2.0 Connoisseur** Diesel 52 reg, taxed, MoT December, very good condition, full service history. Alloys, AC, cruise control, 1,430. 07827 522799.

**VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 T** seats, Auto, 04, blue, tax and MoT, very good condition. £2,850 ono. 07969 630221.

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**RENAULT LAGUNA** 1.8, petrol, Y reg, red, tax, MoT, alloys, half leather, excellent, 2885 ono. Telephone

## SPORT

## thechronicle

## Festival of hockey is showcase for region

OLD Halesonians Hockey Club hosted their annual Badgers Festival at Windsor High School.

The tournament, run by volunteers, was again a success and an enjoyable day for all involved.

The hosts entered two Badgers' teams, who were joined by Kings Heath, Kingswinford, Lichfield, Streetly, Wednesbury, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton.

The day showcased some of the region's best youngsters, with the festival eventually being won by West Bromwich.

Steve Driver, chairman of Old Halesonians Hockey Club, said: "This festival brings together clubs, which for many years have encouraged youth development in hockey in a safe, friendly environment."

The club are looking to expand their ladies section, planning to enter a second team for the 2012-13 season which begins in September.

Anyone interested should visit <http://ohhc.gr8-solutions.biz> or search for Old Halesonians Hockey Club on Facebook.

## Whippet is dogged by defeat

TIPTON'S Ian 'Whippet' Jones missed out on a spot at the 'FA Cup of darts' by one arrow as the Black Country lost out to Shropshire in Wolverhampton's UK Open regional qualifier.

The West Midlands captain was edged out 4-3 by fellow county player Andy Roberts, from Telford, in a last leg decider after a 77-man open tournament at Rileys Sports Bar on Broad Street.

Roberts now goes on to the first round of the PDC's first televised knockout tournament of the year next month.

Jones, the 50-year-old shed maker and four-time England international, had made all the running at the start of the first-to-four match.

Despite collapsing to trail 3-1 after taking the opening set, Jones roared back.

He levelled at 3-3, but missed darts for the match at double two, 16, eight and four before Roberts checked-out on double four.

## Dave calling it kits

WEST Bromwich Albion stalwart Dave Matthews has hung up his kitbag for the last time.

After 51 years, Matthews – one of Albion's longest-serving employees – has announced his retirement.

Health reasons have prompted the 66-year-old's decision. For the past year he has been off work battling cancer and was recently told it was in remission.

But tests have revealed fresh problems with his heart and doctors have said it would be unwise to return to work.

"I can't keep going on forever and the club needs to know where it stands, said Matthews. "Until this heart problem is

sorted out, I don't know what the future holds. With Roy (Hodgson) going and a new manager coming in, it seemed like as good a time as any."

The father-of-two, from Hasbury, Halesowen, began at Albion the age of 15.

As a keen gardener he hoped for a job as a groundsman, but the only vacancy going was in the washroom. He began scrubbing boots and washing muddy T-shirts before working his way up to become kit manager.

More than 360 people attended Matthews' 50th anniversary dinner in March last year. "It was a tremendous day," he said.

Matthews said he could recognise the boots of every player he worked with.



Albion's kitman Dave Matthews is retiring after 51 years with the club

## Baggies fans revel in an afternoon of pride

## Albion 2 Arsenal 3

SO it's farewell to Albion's finest season of football in the Premier League era.

The Hawthorns revelled in an afternoon of pride and goodwill as Baggies fans closed the book on the best campaign in their Premier League history, writes Steve Madeley.

And even a defeat to Arsenal that owed much to calamity keeper Marton Fulop could not dampen the mood of celebration at the end of a season to treasure.

It was the best campaign statistically as Hodgson's men ended in a club record 10th position. And it was the best year in terms of abiding memories as Hodgson established the club as a stable Premier League presence before finally taking his leave to answer a higher calling.

Had Fulop not marked his only league appearance for the Baggies with the most hapless goalkeeping display the ground had witnessed in many a year, Hodgson might have claimed one more famous win to add to his impressive collection.

## Rousing

But after the final whistle on Sunday brought the curtain down on his unforgettable spell in charge, he and his adoring public still had famous wins over Wolves, Villa, Liverpool Chelsea and countless other opponents to warm their spirits.

And while the final result was not what they wanted, they did at least have one more rousing performance to savour from their team.

The occasion couldn't match the drama of Albion's most famous Premier League finale. Instead they enjoyed a day of reflection and revelry that was dampened only slightly by the comical performance of stand-in keeper Fulop.

Having stepped in for an injured Ben Foster, it took just three-and-a-half minutes for the Hungarian to make an impact for the



Graham Dorrans volleys home to put the Baggies 2-1 up against Arsenal

wrong reasons. A challenge 25 yards out saw the ball break towards the keeper but, anxious not to handle the ball outside his box, he misjudged his attempt to gather just inside and allowed Yossi Benayoun to steal it and roll a shot into an unguarded net.

That sent the Gunners fans into raptures but they were silenced just seven minutes later as Albion got the benefit of a contentious offside call to draw level.

James Morrison was allowed to skip too easily through the visitors' midfield and his pass found Shane Long. He paused briefly awaiting a flag, but then resumed his advance away from Laurent Koscielny and found the bottom corner of Wojciech Szczesny's net.

Things got better for the Baggies just four minutes later when Arsenal again failed to get close to Morrison in the heart of midfield and Dorrans provided an exquisite goal.

But Arsenal regained their composure impressively after that and might have drawn level when Benayoun volleyed high and wide at the far post.

And parity was restored on the half-hour when Fulop had another moment to forget.

The initial mistake was from Youssef Mulumbu, who was robbed by Alex Song 30 yards from goal. He found Andre Santos, whose powerful low shot bent late but still crept in disappointingly for Albion at Fulop's near post.

It took another huge helping hand from Fulop for Arsene Wenger's side to regain the lead.

The shell-shocked keeper fluffed a two-fisted punch from a van Persie corner and Koscielny bundled home the loose ball.

The hosts might have levelled moments later when one of a series of corners from Dorrans found the head of Jonas Olsson,



Scorer Dorrans is mobbed by his delighted team-mates

whose goal-bound effort was cleared off the line by Robin van Persie. And they threatened again when substitute Keith Andrews unleashed a 20-yard shot that Szczesny did well to push away.

It was a spirited effort from the Baggies that showed how badly they wanted to give their departing gaffer a fitting send-off.

And it left a nervous Wenger and his retiring No.2 Pat Rice pacing the touchline anxiously as their side chased down third place and a guaranteed spot in next season's Champions League.

The announcement of five added minutes did little to improve their mood.

Neither did a chance for Albion's Billy Jones in stoppage time, with the full-back denied by a fine challenge by Kieran Gibbs.

Albion could not find another equaliser, but the final result did little to dampen the spirits on a day of pride and celebration.

## Ratnayake hits 50 as Old Hill go close

Old Hill 207-8, Moseley 171-8.

Draw

A HALF-CENTURY from Dmitri Ratnayake and four wickets for Nigel Davenport were not enough to give Old Hill a victory at Moseley.

Old Hill's Mike Hingley (18) and Dan Cox (29) put on 47 for the first wicket.

There was support in the middle order with Ratnayake making 58 and Ian Walker contributing 29.

The remaining batsmen continued to push the score up as Old Hill posted a total of 207-8 off 55 overs.

They took a quick wicket in Moseley's reply.

Moseley were going well until Davenport (4-38) opened up his account. But the remaining batsmen batted well, Moseley getting up to 171-8 but unable to prevent Old Hill taking the winning draw.

Old Hill 148, Moseley 149-2.

Moseley won by eight wickets

Old Hill seconds were well beaten at home after being put in to bat.

Opener Shezad (Omar) Aslam made 43 but was Old Hill's highest scorer as Moseley bowlers Tim Holland (4-32) and Nick Chase (4-36) ran through the order.

Both Hamzar Ahmed (25) and Dan Brosnan (20) helped to move Old Hill onto their final total of 148 after 49.2 overs.

In their reply Moseley lost just two wickets with Jugdeep Singh Nandra making an unbeaten 56.

Mitchell Jeffery and Humas Butt each took 1-20. Moseley reached their target in 35.4 overs.

Bromsgrove 188-6, Old Hill 142-9. Draw

Late order batsmen helped Old Hill thirds scrape past the losing draw mark.

Tom Hill (30), Harry Smith (17 not out) and Matt Banham (21 not out) pushed them to 188-6 off 50 overs.

Old Hill openers Ifikar Ali and Tom Genders put on 32 before the first wicket fell. But a further three quick wickets tumbled as Old Hill struggled for runs.

Joel Foster (17 not out) and Nathan Davies (19) got them to a losing draw and last man Lewis Javaid helped stave off defeat.

Old Hill 161, Astwood Bank 93-9. Draw

Several batsmen chipped in with useful runs as Old Hill fourths were dismissed for 161 after 44 overs.

Although Elliot James made 22 and Mohammed Ilyas 18, the bowlers were in charge.

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# SPORT

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Albion sign off  
their season  
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**Bags packed**  
Kitman retires  
after 51 years  
**Page 39**



Sports Desk 01902 319461

e-mail: chronsport@expressandstar.co.uk

## New boss is gamble, concedes Morgan

WOLVES have unveiled little-known Norwegian Stale Solbakken as their new manager – with chairman Steve Morgan admitting the appointment is a gamble.

But Morgan has insisted the former Norway international will prove a hit in the Molineux hot-seat.

The multi-millionaire believes his choice, who won five Danish Superliga titles in six years at Copenhagen, is a risk that can pay off handsomely.

"It's always a gamble – of course it is – when you appoint any new manager," said Morgan.

"But we don't believe that just because he's not well-known in England, that it's a problem.

"He's a veteran of the Champions League, he has won lots of silverware as a player and as a manager, and of course he will have money to spend."

Wolves are planning two backroom appointments under the new boss.

They want to have a European-style sporting director – called a "football development director" – and an assistant coach, expected to be Solbakken's long-term assistant Bård Wigen.

Solbakken confirmed: "I trust the guys already here but I want to add one or two new people."

"It's too early to say who I will bring."

Solbakken was forced to retire from playing in 2001 when he had a cardiac arrest on the training pitch when he was at Copenhagen, but insists he is fit – and said he would win a race against journalists 10 times out of 10.

## Long lands Tipton job

TIPTON TOWN have moved to name Ian Long as their new boss after Craig Harris' resigned to take the Chasetown job.

Long worked with Harris on the management team last season as Town reached the Midland Alliance League Cup final.

The board of directors at the Tipton Sports Academy issued a statement, which read: "The board have every confidence in Ian, who has a history of success at grass roots.

"The Board feel the key to success in driving the club forward is continuity and hope that all staff will assist Ian with this."



Halas Hawks celebrate with the Stourbridge and District under-18 League Cup final trophy

## Hawks fly home

HALAS HAWKS bounced back from a goal down to win the Stourbridge & District under-18 League Cup final. NC Sports started the quicker of the two teams, putting Halas under early pressure.

The Halas defence failed to deal with a long throw-in and NC Sports scored the opening goal.

From then on Halas fought their way back into the game, creating several chances and having a goal ruled out for offside.

As the balance of the game swung more to Halas, Adam Reece came in

**NC Sports U18 1**  
**Halas Hawks U18 3**

from the right side to pick up a good pass and make the score 1-1 at half-time. From the second-half whistle Halas piled on the pressure.

Substitute Tom Evans came on and made an instant impact by battling his way down the right-hand side and putting the ball in the bottom corner to put Halas ahead.

Halas made the game safe with a third goal, from Joe Follis.

## Whiley and Shuker at the double to net title

HALESOWEN wheelchair tennis player Jordanne Whiley has taken a tournament victory in America.

She partnered fellow Brit Lucy Shuker to their first ITF1 Series doubles title together.

Last Friday's victory at the Atlanta Open came just a week after they also won the women's doubles gold medal at the Eton Manor International in Olympic Park, the test event for the Paralympic Games in September.

In Atlanta, Whiley and Shuker met top seeds Annick Sevenans of Belgium and Sharon Walraven of the Netherlands and came from a set down to level.

They also trailed 5-3 in the decider but reeled off four consecutive games to clinch a 1-6, 6-4, 7-5 victory and their second doubles title in as many weeks.

British No.1 Whiley went into the Atlanta tournament unseeded for the women's singles, but defeated American Jan Proctor 6-2, 6-1 and then beat German fourth seed and world No.11 Katharina Kruger, the player ranked directly above her.

However, Whiley's singles challenge came to an end in the semi-finals when she could win only one game against Dutch top seed and world No.3 Jiske Griffioen.

## Brummies claim maximum points

BIRMINGHAM Brummies banked maximum points at struggling Belle Vue to move up speedway's Elite League table.

The Brummies won 57-33, taking advantage of home No.1 Rory Schlein's heat one and subsequent withdrawal with a broken metatarsal. Josh Auty top-scored with 17 for the Selco Brummies.

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# BAGGIES OUGHT TO STAY UP SAYS ROY

DEPARTING Albion boss Roy Hodgson told Baggies fans they "deserve" another season in the Premier League.

The new England manager was given a rousing send-off after the final game of the season as his side clinched a first ever top-half finish in the Premier League despite losing 3-2 to Arsenal on Sunday.

Hodgson, who took up his new role on Monday and announced his Euro 2012 squad two days later, addressed supporters after the final whistle and told them: "It's been a fantastic reception and I am very touched by it.

"It has been a really magnificent time for me here at West Bromwich Albion.

"You are a fantastic club and a club with great tradition and with great fans.

"Even in the rough times, when we've not been winning, we've always felt you have been right behind us. You deserve another year in the Premier League, you really do."

The game also marked a final appearance in Baggies colours for Paul Schärner, who thanked fans with a specially-printed T-shirt.

He has revealed that Sunday's appearance as a substitute was his last for the club after two years. "It was very emotional," he said.

### Priorities

Meanwhile, Albion hero Darren Moore has urged the Baggies to make keeping Ben Foster and Jonas Olsson their top summer priorities.

The ex-Hawthorns defender believes his former club should pull out all the stops to keep the key duo before committing funds to new signings.

Foster's season-long loan from Birmingham has ended with Blues now hoping for a summer auction for his services.

And Olsson is entering the final year of his contract, leaving Albion with a major decision over his future if they fail to agree an

### Roy Hodgson's Euro 2012 squad

#### Goalkeepers

Green (West Ham), Hart (Manchester City), Ruddy (Norwich)

#### Defenders

Baines (Everton), Cahill (Chelsea), A. Cole (Chelsea), G. Johnson (Liverpool), P. Jones (Manchester United), Lescott (Manchester City), Terry (Chelsea)

#### Midfielders

Barry (Manchester City), Downing (Liverpool), Gerrard (Liverpool), Lampard (Chelsea), Milner (Manchester City), Oxley-Chamberlain (Arsenal), Parker (Tottenham), Walcott (Arsenal), Young (Manchester United)

#### Strikers

Carroll (Liverpool), Defoe (Tottenham), Rooney, Welbeck (both Manchester United)

extended deal. Moore said: "If Albion are looking to move forward then the likes of Ben Foster and Jonas Olsson have to remain at the club.

"If they are going to improve as a team then they really have to be looking to keep hold of those players.

"Of course they will be looking to add to the team this season. You can always improve your squad with the right players, however well a season has gone for you.

"But they have to be looking to add to their current squad and not replacing key players from it."

Hodgson axed Rio Ferdinand for Euro 2012 as teenage Arsenal winger Alex Oxley-Chamberlain won a

surprise call-up. Controversial Chelsea captain John Terry was named in the 23-man squad for the European Championships along with Liverpool striker Andy Carroll and Norwich goalkeeper John Ruddy.

But Villa's Darren Bent, who has been missing since February with an ankle injury, was left out despite declaring his fitness for the summer.

Midfielders Gareth Barry, Ashley Young, James Milner and Stewart Downing make up a strong ex-Villa contingent but former Albion keeper Scott Carson, now with Turkish club Bursaspor, has been left out in favour of West Ham's Robert Green to back-up No.1 Joe Hart.



Roy Hodgson says his farewells to the Baggies fans at their final game of the season

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